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BRITAIN'S PREDICAMENT.

Will France and England
be Dragged Into
the War?

FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURS.

Uppermost in the minds of the British public is the query: Will England be dragged into the war? The man in the street asks this big question of his fellow, finding a certain relief in an exchange of views, which must necessarily be largely speculative in character.

In the clubs, the restaurants, and the trains the theme is the same with all classes of the community.

Nobody is confident either way; as, of course, nobody can be. This much only is certain, war is not wanted by the community or courted by the authorities. Still, it is significant that the public are haunted by a certain misgiving; not a timid fear of war so much as an enlightened dread of its price. After the recent Boer war, which cost so much blood and treasure, there exists a natural desire among patriotic Britons to prolong the interval of peace as far as national honour will allow.

OUR OBLIGATIONS SACRED.

But no further! Britons never will be drawn. The alliance with Japan carries obligations that cannot be shirked, and will not be, if certain eventualities arise. During yesterday it was most noticeable in the City which always provides the real pulse of the nation at such critical junctures—that men were asking in the same breath: Will England be dragged into the war? and: Will France be dragged into it? It was felt that in the answer to the latter lay the solution of the former.

Singularly friendly, almost sympathetic, was London's attitude towards our nearest neighbour. Whether the inference were war-polar or not, there was no mistaking the popular impression that France had made an unlucky alliance with Russia, and that she might very soon rue the partnership. The Japanese, by dealing Russia a succession of staggering initial blows, had in a few days stirred the French mind with alarm lest they should ultimately find themselves the allies of a Power faced with inevitable defeat.

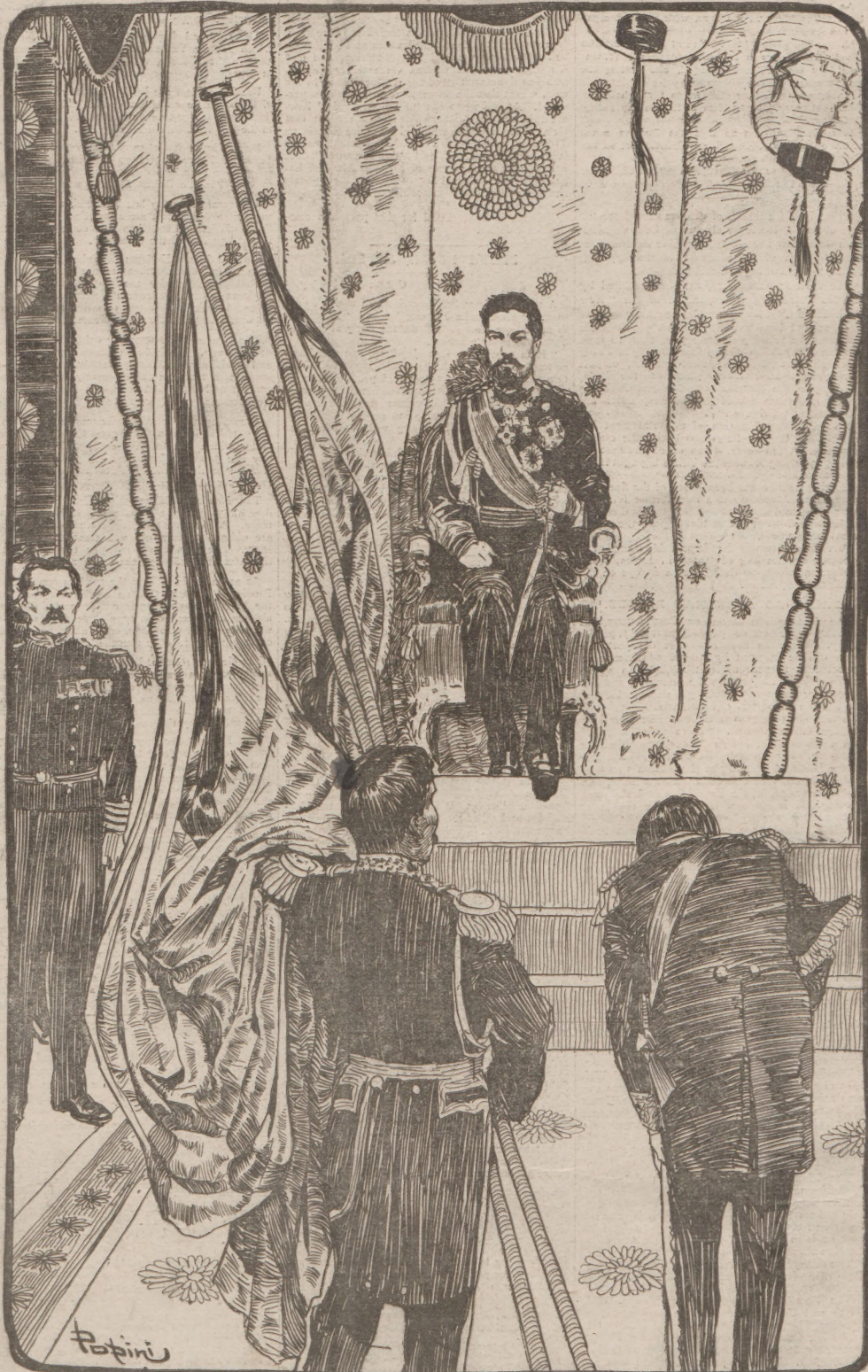
In official and semi-official quarters the delicacy of the situation is acutely realised. While truth is proclaimed, if not from the house-tops, certainly from the doorsteps, that France will not fight in haste to repent at leisure.

Those who claim to know the French character best declare that France would sooner sever her alliance with Russia than go to war with her nearest neighbour and best customer. This is known to be the opinion entertained at the French Embassy in London. "Better a thousand times bear the defeat of Russia than the financial trouble it will bring to Great Britain," said a prominent French merchant yesterday. "than make an everlasting enemy of Great Britain. Frenchmen are not so foolish; and I do not believe England would willingly find herself at war with France. So when some nation wants to fight, I think they will find some excuse for not fighting, no matter what happens to Russia or Japan."

WHAT GERMANY WOULD LIKE.

What about Germany? That is another question one hears on all hands. The impression is abroad that the Kaiser would not be sorry to see France and England in the Far East quarrel. Their mutual difficulties might prove Germany's opportunity in various ways. The popular supposition is that the Kaiser does not want to fight, but that he would not mind looking on at France and England contending against each other in the tale would make the German eagle scream with delight," said an official of the French Government in London.

THE FIRST WAR TROPHY.



There was a scene without precedent at Tokio, on Friday, when the Emperor of Japan received from the hands of Captain Yamamoto, one of the officers of the squadron which sank the Russian warships Varyag and Korietz at Chemulpho, the flags of the two vanquished vessels. It is not usual for the Emperor to receive the officers of the Army or Navy, and this exception in his favour has made Captain Yamamoto the man of the moment in Japan.

WAR OF WORDS

Another "Revenge" Speech from Alexeieff.

THE LAND CAMPAIGN

Unconfirmed Report of a Great Battle.

FIRING HEARD AT SEA.

An unconfirmed report states that engagements have taken place on the Yalu, with a loss of 2,500 to the Russians.

M. Pavloff, giving his version of the Chemulpho naval battle, says a Japanese torpedo boat was sunk and two cruisers damaged, one sinking the same evening.

A very uneasy feeling still exists throughout the Continent, owing to the fear of the war spreading to Europe.

It appears to be true that the Russian naval reinforcements at Diliboutil, the French port on the Small coast, have been reduced.

The Russian gunboat Mandjur is still at Shanghai, and declines to leave.

There is still a dearth of definite news from the seat of war. Rumours abound of fresh fighting, both on land and sea, but no reliable indication is to hand even of the positions of the opposing forces, to say nothing of actual hostilities.

The most sensational report was circulated by the St. Petersburg correspondent of the "New York Herald," who telegraphed to his paper as follows:—"I have authority, which prohibits me from publishing, that the Russian fleet is taking place and everything is perfectly quiet, outpost engagements have taken place on the Yalu, resulting in the Russian advance guards being driven back with considerable losses, which are estimated at 2,500 lives."

No sort of corroboration of this statement has arrived, and it must be received with the utmost suspicion. As, however, thousands of Japanese are rapidly marching towards the Yalu a big fight is not improbable shortly.

Nothing definite has been heard of the fleets for some days. According to a Port Arthur telegram news was heard at sea on Sunday, but as there are no Russian ships at sea in that region, the report seems meaningless.

Part of the Japanese fleet is probably occupied in guarding the landing of troops in Korea, while another squadron, no doubt, keeps an eye on the Vladivostok squadron.

FALSE AS A RUSSIAN REPORT.

The next serious attack on Port Arthur will probably be made in co-operation with the Japanese Army. While the fleet blockades the port, the town will be invested by troops, which may be expected to number at least 150,000. In Korea Japan will probably act on the defensive, and will devote her energies to striking a decisive blow at the Russian stronghold in Manchuria.

It is evident that no reliance can be placed on Russian official reports. "False as a bulletin," was a proverb in Napoleon's time, and might be so to-day. For example, M. Pavloff reports that at the battle of Chemulpho the Asama was very badly injured; that a torpedo boat was sunk, and that another cruiser, the Takachio, sank the same evening. It is strange, if such were the facts, that neither the correspondents, nor Captain Nicol, of the French cruiser Pascal, mentioned these important losses.

The reassuring reports as to small damage to the ships torpedoed and shelled at Port Arthur are probably equally false. The Novik, for instance, which was struck by the Japanese in the long-range attack on Port Arthur, is reported to have left dock repaired.

Efforts are being made to circumscribe the area of the war. It is reported from Peking that the British, American, French, German, and Italian envoys have handed a joint note to the Russian and Japanese representatives urging their Governments to confine hostilities to Manchuria, and not to allow war to be carried on in Chinese territory.

The panic on the Paris Bourse has largely abated, and at the close yesterday a calm tone was manifested. There was a recovery of from two to three points in many instances. Great uneasiness, however, is still felt on the Continent.

The Russian story that the Japanese used Wei-hai-wei as a base for their torpedo operations was emphatically denied by Earl Percy in the House of Commons yesterday. He stated that no Japanese ships had visited that harbour since last August.

UNDER SEALED ORDERS.

The Bingo Maru, belonging to the Japanese Mail Steamship Company (Nippon Yusen Kaisha), left the Royal Albert Docks yesterday. The captain has received sealed orders, and it is not until he is well out to sea that he will know for what port he is to make. The Bingo Maru arrived in London about three weeks ago.

The owners have received advice that the steamer Rosalie has been captured by the Russian Government at Vladivostok.

The Rosalie was chartered by Messrs. Hull, Nylth and Co. for the Russian Government on October 27 last year for Port Arthur or Vladivostok.

She left Cardiff with coal on November 21, and received orders at Sabang (China) to proceed to Vladivostok. Information was received that she was at this port on the 17th inst.

The probability exists that the vessel is being detained just as the Russian authorities detained the Foxton Hall at Port Arthur, to prevent leakage of information as to Russia's naval doings at Vladivostok.

"PERFIDIOUS BANDITS."

Russian Leaders Show Great Command-of Language.

The process of "killing Kruger with your mouth" is being extensively imitated by the Russians.

Admiral Alexeieff, according to a Reuter telegram, has inspected the damaged warships at Port Arthur—those same warships whose repair will be a "complicated business" occupying "about a fortnight." He was satisfied that the repairs would be effected in accordance with his previous anticipations.

Then came the usual "treachery" speech. The Admiral, addressing his men, said he felt certain they would "have their revenge on the perfidious enemy."

The Admiral's address, we are told, "caused much enthusiasm." The Russians are an easily satisfied people.

General Wolkoff and General Basilevski are also among the orators. They have arrived at Harbin, and have made impassioned speeches to the troops, stigmatising the Japanese as "bandits."

The position of Admiral Alexeieff is interesting. It was suggested that the disasters at Port Arthur had irretrievably ruined his reputation, and that the dispatch of the veteran General Kuropatkin, who has done such good service for Russia in the past, meant that the Viceroy was practically superseded. According to the "Echo de Paris," however, it was at Admiral Alexeieff's request that General Kuropatkin, who will leave for Siberia on Thursday, was deputed to take command of the land forces in the East, and his appointment "does not indicate that the star of Admiral Alexeieff has paled." The Admiral is "displaying the greatest activity, redoubling his encouragements and exhortations to the troops."

No man is better fitted for that part of a commander's duties.

FIRING HEARD AT SEA.

COLOGNE, Monday.

A telegram from St. Petersburg of to-day's date to the "Koenliche Zeitung" says: "According to news from Port Arthur distant firing at sea was heard yesterday morning."

"It is presumed that Japanese torpedo-boats attempted to approach the port. Japan's declaration that she considers coal and provisions to be contraband of war is characterised here as arbitrary. The Viceroy's journal demands that the British should permit Russian ships to supply themselves at Singapore and Hongkong with coal for the voyage as far as Port Arthur."

When the Central Postal Administration has made arrangements to prevent a repetition of the disorganisation which prevailed in the field-post service during the Russo-Turkish war. M. Stenokovitch, who was employed in Turkestan for twenty years, is going to the front on a special mission to superintend the execution of these arrangements."—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S CRIPPLED CREDIT.

The Russian Government is doing its utmost to prevent its precarious position becoming evident to the world through the medium of Russian securities. There is no demand for Russian Government bonds on the London Stock Exchange just now. The Japanese torpedo exploits have rendered them, to put it mildly, unpopular, but a financier in the employ of the Tsar's Government prevents their unpopularity becoming apparent.

When the Russian stock shows a disposition to go down this financier buys heavily. It is interesting to know that the gentleman who is thus assisting to maintain Russian credit had to leave Russia on account of the persecution he was subject to because of his riches and his Semitic origin.

It was stated in City circles yesterday that a Russian £20,000,000 5 per cent. loan is to be issued at 88 or 80. It is understood that the Vanderbilts and other leading American financiers are concerned in it.

THE SUNK JAPANESE STEAMER.

The following was issued from the Japanese Legation last evening:—"Passengers and crew of the Nakamura-Mar, which, on the 11th inst., was sunk off Tsuguri by the Russian man-of-war, arrived at Nagasaki on the 22nd inst. by a German steamer. When the Nagamura-Mar was sunk they were, except two of them, rescued by the Russian man-of-war, and were taken to Vladivostok, where they embarked in the German steamer."

FIGHTING "GENERAL FEVRIER."

The "Novoye Vremya," according to Reuter, says it will be a long time before military operations on a large scale can be undertaken, on account of the extreme difficulty and enforced delay in concentrating troops, stores, and munitions of war in the immense area within which the Army has not only to guard against all attack, but also to fight against a rigorous climate.

A telegram from Salonica, published in the "Petit Journal," states that Turkey is making active preparations for hostilities against Bulgaria.

- Feb. 5.—Japan sends her Note breaking off negotiations.
- Feb. 7.—News published in St. Petersburg and London.
- Feb. 8.—Russia has the first shot, the Korietz firing on Japanese warships off Chemulpho.
- At midnight the Japanese made a torpedo attack at Port Arthur, disabling three Russian warships.
- Feb. 9.—Naval battle off Port Arthur; four Russian ships disabled.
- Combat between Japanese squadron and Russian ships off Vladivostok; both Russians sunk. Japanese troops landed.
- Tsar prays for success to Russian arms.
- Feb. 10.—Tsar issues formal proclamation of war.
- Japanese troops occupy Seoul, the capital of Korea.
- M. Kurino, the Japanese Ambassador, leaves St. Petersburg.
- Feb. 11.—Bridge on Manchurian Railway reported blown up.

WAR FLASHES.

Short News From All Over the World.

The announcement of the Japanese victories has provoked the wildest scenes of enthusiasm in Sweden.

The Japanese declare that they will take Port Arthur within two months with their fleet and army.

The Vladivostok squadron seems to have left port again. The ships are apparently seeking to sever the Japanese cables.

Admiral Alexeieff has asked the Russian Ministry of Marine to send him officers who are not too young and admirals who are not too old.

The example given by the Emperor in depositing gold and silver ornaments in the Bank of Japan is being followed by the nobles and leading citizens.

The Tsar has sent an autograph letter to the Emperor William, thanking him in most cordial terms for his warm friendship and sincere sympathy.

The captured flags of the Variag and Korietz, which Captain Yamamoto brought to Tokio to present to the Mikado, will be placed in the Tokio museum.

Russian officers are badly in want of good maps of Korea, and even of Manchuria. The War Office itself cannot supply even higher officers going out to the Far East with detailed plans.

Before long it is to be expected that the Japanese Emperor will go to Hiroshima, in the inland Sea, there to direct operations personally, as he did in the Chino-Japanese war.

The sums of money lost by Russian officers' corruption in Manchuria are alleged to be enormous. Some officials are stated to have committed suicide in consequence of the discovery.

General Baron Kodama has given up his portfolio as Japanese Minister of the Interior, and is probably leaving for the seat of war. Baron Kodama is the Kitchener of Japan, and has done splendid work in Formosa, of which colony he was for over four years Governor-General.

The Japanese character (says the "Times") is a complex one. We find an extraordinary gentleness and sensitiveness to beauty mated with the sternest heroism, a fondness for extremely elaborate convention and formalism combined with a childlike freshness and nearness to nature.

According to the "Manchester Guardian" the reply of the Russian Government to the Japanese Note, which was to have reached Tokio on the day the Japanese broke off diplomatic relations, is in the hands of Admiral Alexeieff in Port Arthur, and never left them.

The Russian soldiers going East are suffering dreadfully from the frost, which in Siberia is intense. Snowstorms delay the trains and the troops are obliged to turn out and clear the line from snow. The men travel in open trucks with the thermometer at 50 degrees below zero.

As an example of how the truth is concealed in Russia, it is stated that an official telegram from the Viceroy, containing intelligence of a disagreeable nature, was set in type three days ago, and was about to be published, when an Imperial order came ordering it to be cancelled.

The German steamer Batavia, with 1,800 Japanese refugees, has arrived at Nagasaki from Vladivostok. Two women arrived in the nick of time to catch the Batavia, but they were barefoot, and wore only a single garment. They were penniless, having been robbed by the soldiers.

The Russian Government (says the "Daily Express" correspondent) has just ordered the expulsion of all Jewish residents from Tomsk, Omak, Irkutsk, and other towns along the Trans-Siberian Railway. Russian officials maintain that the Jews throughout Russian dominions are the aiders and abettors of high treason.

A Russian gentleman describes the Cossacks as "magnificent horsemen, brave fighters, and hard as steel." Every Don Cossack from the age of fifteen to fifty is compelled to render military service, and to equip, clothe, and arm himself at his own expense, and, in addition, to keep his horse.

One of the bandit chiefs who are causing Russia trouble in Manchuria is named Julenusen. He appears to be a nineteenth century Wallace, a Manchurian patriot possessed of an intense detestation of the Russians. He has for nearly two years past been carrying on a partisan warfare against them.

"DAILY MAIL" WAR MAP.

Owing to the continued large demand for the map of the "Far East," over 100,000 copies have now been produced. The scale is larger and the information is fuller than any other map published at the same price.

The map folds within a cover into convenient size and may be obtained from the publishers, George Philip and Son, Limited, 32, Fleet-street, E.C., and of all booksellers, newspapers, and bookstalls. Price 1s. 1d., or, mounted on cloth, 2s. 7d.

DIARY OF THE WAR.

- Russian transport Yenisei blown up by a mine at Port Arthur. Four officers and ninety-two men killed. Japan formally proclaims war.
- Declaration of neutrality by the other Great Powers.
- Feb. 13.—China addresses a Note to Japan and Russia that if the Imperial Japanese Government does not respect she will take steps to protect them by force.
- Feb. 14.—Second night torpedo attack on Port Arthur. Russian cruiser Boyarin damaged.
- Feb. 16.—New cruisers Kasuga and Nishin reach Japan.
- Feb. 18.—Russia issues proclamation promising Japan chastisement for her "treachery."
- Feb. 19.—First encounter between Cossacks and a small Japanese detachment in Korean territory, on the south side of the Yalu. Some Japanese taken prisoners.

BEAUTY AND THE JAP.

Queen of Beauty Anxious to Wrestle with Yukio Tani.

Yukio Tani, the great Japanese wrestler, offers £100 to any man who can throw him, and £25 to any man whom he cannot throw in fifteen minutes. But his offer does not embrace woman.

It appears, however, that at any rate one woman wishes to embrace the fascinating Jap. Miss Anderson, a prize-winner at the recent Leeds Beauty Show, has challenged Yukio Tani to a fight to a finish, but the wrestler is by no means enamoured of the prospect.

"She wrote to me," he explained, "from New Castle, and said that if we could meet she was sure he is the better. Certainly to look at he is a only see my beautiful figure," she concluded, "I am certain you would want to wrestle with me."

But Yukio Tani does not war with women, even Queens of Beauty, and has declined the offer of a bout with Miss Anderson.

The wrestler is quite a small man. His height is only 5ft. 11 in., and he weighs but 9 stone. It matters nothing to him, however, how big or strong his adversary may be; in fact, the bigger he is the better. Certainly to look at he is a pocket Hercules, with muscles like iron bands.

Yesterday he was matched against the English lightweight champion, Jim Mellor, for £20. The encounter will come off in London within a day or two of April 18. It should prove a great draw.

GERMANY EXTRADITES ANARCHISTS.

In the Prussian Diet yesterday there was a debate on the treatment of Russian subjects in Germany.

The Minister of Justice explained that a number of Russians in North Prussia had issued pamphlets of a highly treasonable nature, and the police there had intervened. While part of these pamphlets were Socialist in spirit, the other part could only be described as Anarchist in character.

This the Minister continued constituted an act of treason and lèse majesté against a friendly nation. The facts were reported to the Prussian Government, which thereupon demanded the extradition of the Russians arrested.

All nations had a common interest in combating Anarchism, and the Minister contended that the German police had acted correctly.

MORE ABOUT FASHODA.

The "Figaro" yesterday gave full details (says a Reuter telegram) relating to the conditions on which Russia offered France her support at the time of the Fashoda incident.

M. Delcassé called Count Muraviev's attention to the possible grave eventualities that might result from the dispute with Great Britain, and asked what view the Russian Minister took.

Count Muraviev gave a "fresh assurance" that "in everything relating to Egypt the Imperial Government was resolved to go hand in hand with France and to adopt its attitude to that of the French Government."

It was, says the "Figaro," eighteen days before M. Delcassé announced his decision to a hostile Fashoda that Count Muraviev declared: "If you fight, we will fight."

VENEZUELA AWARD.

THE HAGUE, Monday.

The Arbitration Court to-day gave its decision in the case of the claims of the Powers against Venezuela.

The Court found unanimously that the Powers blocking Powers—Great Britain, Germany, and Italy—have a right to preferential treatment over the other claimant nations with regard to the payment of the thirty per cent. of the customs revenue of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello, as agreed in the Venezuela for the payment of her foreign costs.

Each party is ordered to pay its own costs. The United States are commissioned to carry out the judgment of the Court within three months. —Reuter.

FIGHTING IN TIBET EXPECTED.

CALCUTTA, Monday.

About 3,000 Tibetans are believed to have assembled a few miles beyond the frontier, according to some reports, a force of 10,000 posted near Gyantse. The belief in the probability of military operations when the advance made towards the end of March is steadily growing.

Meanwhile, over 5,000 coolies, besides bullocks, yaks, and mules, are engaged in conveying supplies over the narrow mountain paths, which are being blocked, owing to the recent heavy snowfall. —Reuter's Special Service.

WESTERN MAIL'S NARROW ESCAPE.

The Great Western day mail train to the West of England had a narrow escape from accident yesterday afternoon. When running between Maidenhead and Churston, the coupling rods of a high-speed train were snapped when the train was crossing a trestle bridge, bringing it to an abrupt standstill.

Fortunately the train was ascending an incline at the time, and was not going at a greater speed than twenty miles an hour, or the consequences might have been disastrous. Five minutes later the train would have been descending a steep bank between the River Dart to Kingswear at a speed of thirty miles an hour.

FLOODS DROWN HUNDREDS.

Several villages have been destroyed, says a Reuter message, and hundreds of lives lost through the bursting of a dam on the Hwangho River in Tsinan-fu (Shantung).

Great masses of ice in the Amu Daria, says a Reuter message from St. Petersburg, have caused it to overflow, and the towns of Petrovsk and others have been flooded.

Many cattle drowned, and the telegraph lines destroyed, many cattle drowned, and the telegraph lines damaged, and river traffic interrupted.

TO-DAY'S WEATHER.

Our special weather forecast for to-day is: Cold north-easterly and easterly breezes; cold and fair generally; slight snow in places. Lighting-up time: 6.28 p.m. Sea passages will all be moderate to smooth, with fog in the Irish Channel.

TO-DAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE.

The King returned to London from Portsmouth yesterday afternoon. Prior to his departure his Majesty witnessed an interesting naval performance at Whale Island.—(Page 13.)

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, has gone abroad owing to indifferent health. She is not expected to return to town for some time.—(Page 13.)

There is very little news from the Far East. An unconfirmed report says that the Russians have sent 2,500 men in a fight in Northern Korea. There is still uneasiness in Europe as to the war spreading, but the panic on the Continental bourses has given way to an easier feeling.—(Page 2.)

We have the best authority for contradicting a statement that the Russian Ambassador has been charged to inform the Tsar of King Edward's readiness to act as mediator between Russia and Japan.—(Page 5.)

Interviewed on behalf of the *Daily Illustrated Mirror*, a Siberian merchant expressed the opinion it was impossible for Russia to lose in the war with Japan.—(Page 5.)

The House of Commons went into Committee of Supply on the Supplementary Army Estimates. The question of Chinese labour for the Rand was made the occasion of a motion for adjournment of the House, moved by Dr. Macnamara, and discussed at the evening sitting.—(Page 15.)

A sad story of worry and its results was told in the inquest last evening respecting the death of Mrs. Collett, a Kilburn resident, found on the N.W.R. line. Medical evidence pointed to suicide, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.—(Page 6.)

The Birkenhead Coroner yesterday opened and adjourned the inquest respecting the death of Thomas Gilbert, one time J.P. for Essex, who committed suicide after attempting to murder Miss Florence Bates, an actress. The young man, Gilbert, who, at great risk, attempted to secure the award of the Water Arbitration Court respecting the claims of the Lambeth, Southwark and Vauxhall, Chelsea, and Kent Water Companies was made known by Sir E. Fry yesterday.—(Page 6.)

Sir Leslie Stephen, the well-known author and editor, died at his residence in Hyde Park-gate yesterday.—(Page 3.)

A fire which occurred at a house in Ravenscroft-street, Hackney-road, compelled the inmates to jump from the windows. Fortunately they escaped serious injury.—(Page 4.)

It is suggested that as the result of a step taken by a well-known London firm a corner in publishing is not unlikely.—(Page 4.)

An open verdict was returned by the coroner's jury at an inquiry respecting the death of Miss Hamilton, a post office clerk, whose body was found in the Underground tunnel, between King's Cross and Farringdon-street.—(Page 6.)

Judgment was given in the Court of Appeal in the case of Lady Violet Beauchamp, who sought to set aside a receiving order made against her and was dismissed, but stay of all bankruptcy proceedings was ordered, with a view to the matter being taken to the House of Lords.—(Page 6.)

The question how to get the cattle to shore from the stranded Lake Michigan on the Dungeness coast has resolved itself into a puzzle. The animals could swim there, but an Act of Parliament forbids any such thing.—(Page 3.)

From a decision given in the High Court yesterday it would appear that the County Council is liable for damages in respect of injuries sustained by persons travelling on that authority's tram.—(Page 6.)

The feature of the Birmingham race meeting was the defeat of Band of Hope by Inquisitor, who won easily. Both horses are engaged in the Grand National.—(Page 14.)

At a meeting of the Football Association yesterday, Aston Villa and Tottenham Hotspur were ordered to replay their Cup-tie at Birmingham on Thursday. The draw for the third round of the Cup was also made.—(Page 14.)

It is stated in a Sydney message that Warner has objected to one of the umpires chosen for the fourth test match. As a result a list of eight names was submitted for consideration.—(Page 14.)

Special illustrations appear in this issue of the naval work at Portsmouth as inspected by King Edward at Whale Island yesterday.—(Page 8.)

At a City company meeting yesterday a shareholder created a scene by suggesting that directors should go before a Judge and jury.—(Page 4.)

To-Day's Arrangements.

The Central Poor Law Conference opens at Guildhall today. The presidency of Sir John T. D. Llewellyn (two days).
Royal Institution, Albemarle-street: Mr. E. Foxwell on "Japanese Life and Customs." 3 p.m.
Annual meeting of the City branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution at the Mansion House. (One Society's Show, Royal Agricultural Hall, at the Actors' Association.)
Mr. H. B. Irving presides at the annual meeting of the "Holidays Fund." The Bishop of London preaches at the annual meeting, School Board Offices, Victoria.
Duke and Duchess of Connaught give a ball at the Royal Hospital, Dublin.
Promotional Election: Conferences at the Guildhall, Westminster, 3.

SACRED GUNS TO FIGHT THE INFIDEL.



Before the Russians go into action the guns are blessed by the priests that they may the better perform their duty of fighting for Holy Russia and the Tsar. The picture shows a Russian priest in the act of blessing a new "quick-firer" which is to take its part in attempting to chastise the "infidel" Japanese.

FAMOUS CRITIC DEAD.

Married Thackeray's Daughter and Advocated Plain Speaking.

The death of Sir Leslie Stephen, which occurred yesterday morning at his residence at Hyde Park Gate, removes a notable figure from the world of letters.

It was as a critic and as editor of the "Dictionary of National Biography" that he became famous. This was a work which, as he himself said, "ought to have been undertaken by an intelligent Government," for at its inception no one realised how colossal a task it would prove. Sir Leslie was president of the Ethical Society, and an authority on Sociology, on which subject he wrote a great deal.

One of his most notable publications, "Essays on Freethinking and Plain Speaking," created a good deal of sensation at the time of its publication.

Sir Leslie Stephen, who was a Coronation K.C.B., was twice married, firstly to a daughter of Thackeray. He is to be buried at Golder's Green.

STRANDED LAKE MICHIGAN.

Cattle are Forbidden to Swim Ashore by Act of Parliament.

The 450 head of cattle still on board the stranded steamer Lake Michigan must wait until tugs can get alongside to take them off. It would be quite easy to swim them ashore, but an Act of Parliament makes landing cattle on the foreshore illegal.

It is still hoped to get the boat off, but she is now only 400 yards from the shore, and is the largest vessel ever stranded on the Dungeness coast, and it will take a large number of powerful tugboats to move her. Before anything can be done in this direction her injuries must be patched and thirty feet of water pumped from her hold.

The firemen and stokers, to the number of forty, who were taken off by the lifeboat and landed at Dover, are now quartered in the Volunteer Drill Hall at Lydd, in readiness to assist if the vessel can eventually be floated.

Mr. Winston Churchill no longer receives the circulars and notices sent out in the ordinary course by the Treasury Whip to supporters of the Government.

HOTEL STRATEGY.

Emperor Jacques Proves Himself a Worthy Successor to De Wet.

The Savoy "Palace" was in a state of siege all yesterday, the "Commander-in-Chief" had closely invested all the doors, and the Emperor Jacques was at his wits' end to effect a sally without falling into the enemy's clutches.

At last the suggestion of a lift-man that if he went down a service lift and out through the kitchen he might effect an exit into the Strand, without falling into the enemy's clutches, was adopted. The sortie was duly effected.

Closely muffled up his Imperial Majesty hurried along the crowded Strand to his solicitors, jostling people who were totally unaware that they were rubbing shoulders with an Emperor.

A representative of the *Daily Illustrated Mirror* had a talk to one of the enemy, posted at the restaurant door. He was very hopeful and seemed confident that the writ would be served; and seemed utterly unconscious of the fact that his Imperial Majesty had just passed him, and turned into the staff entrance.

MUCH NEWS IN FEW WORDS.

Interesting and Curious Happenings from Many Sources.

Following the lead of the *Daily Illustrated Mirror*, the announcement is made that from Monday next the "Bristol Daily Mercury" will be issued at one halfpenny instead of a penny. It is rumoured that other West of England papers will shortly follow the example set by the *Daily Illustrated Mirror*, which, according to local newsgatherers, is making rapid progress throughout the country.

Lord Dalmeny's prowess with the rifle has been ridiculed, and though it is only an ordinary British bull upon which he exercised his skill, the feat is worthy of record. It was while shooting on his father's estate that he learned of the antics of a mad bull whom a crowd of excited villagers had failed to corner. The youthful lord joined in the hunt, and meeting the animal in a lane shot it dead.

The Rev. H. Russell Wakefield, Mayor of Marylebone, said yesterday that there were cases in our great public schools in which corporal punishment was extremely useful; but in the case of children who came from homes where "physical force" was a constant argument he believed that when corporal punishment was inflicted it did little else than help to brutalise the child.

Fire in the lower part of a house at 23, Ravenscroft-street, Hackney-road, cut off the escape of a married couple named Richards. They, however, reached a window, threw some bedding into the street, dropped their eight-months-old baby on it, and leapt out themselves. They all escaped with slight injuries, but the house was gutted.

The Mortlake Coroner held an inquest yesterday on Arthur Young, aged forty-five, formerly manager of a West African gold mine, who committed suicide in Richmond Park on Saturday by shooting himself in the temple. It was stated that he had no financial troubles, but that he had been out of business since July, 1902.

At Thames Ditton a memorial has just been completed to Australian troopers who took part in the South African war, and it will be shortly shipped to Adelaide, and placed in front of Government House. The memorial is a bronze equestrian statue, representing an Australian trooper scouting.

Fines, amounting in all to £100, were imposed by the Marlborough-street magistrate yesterday on Joseph Forno, an Italian, for selling intoxicating liquor without a license at a house in Wardour-street, and Giuseppe Giovadola, another Italian, was fined £25 in connection with the same charge.

In memory of the late Lord Alington, a special service was held yesterday at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, the Rev. Prebendary Montagu Villiers officiating. The King was represented by Lord Lawrence and Prince Christian by Major Wray.

At a largely attended meeting of delegates of Conservative Associations in East Dorset, held at Wimborne, after the funeral of Lord Alington, Mr. C. Van Raalte was unanimously adopted as the Unionist candidate.

The Bow-street magistrate yesterday again remanded Charles Peters, William Gales, Edward Gardner, and Arthur Wright, who have been arrested on charges in connection with the keeping of a gaming-house in Endell-street, Long-acre.

There will be no combined Army maneuvers this year. The First Army Corps will, however, be exercised in the Aldershot district, and three divisions of the Second Army Corps will concentrate on Salisbury Plain in the middle of August.

The Thames and Severn Canal is much more open to navigation, and provides a once-needed cheap route for heavy goods from the port of London to the West of England. £25,000 has been spent in re-establishing this waterway.

Mr. Thomas Longley, his Majesty's heaviest subject, whose portrait we published a day or two ago, passed away at his residence, the Star Inn, Dover, yesterday afternoon. Deceased was over fifty-four years of age.

The Thames Conservancy have taken a step towards beautifying the upper reaches which will secure unanimous approval. They have put aside a sum of £20 for prizes to the lock-keepers for the best cared-for gardens.

During January the London water companies took from the Thames nearly four times the average quantity of water. It was not missed, and riverside property owners would cheerfully have parted with more.

A sad accident has happened at Szen, Hungary. At an amateur stage performance a performer pointed at an actress a pistol which, by an oversight, was loaded, and shot her dead through the heart.

At a meeting of the Unionist members for Metropolitan constituencies, held last night, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith was re-elected as their chairman for the session, and Mr. Whitmore as their hon. secretary.

Shareholders in the British American Trustee and Finance Corporation, Limited, agreed yesterday to the winding-up of the concern under an order of the Court.

The Rev. Dr. Horton, late chairman of the Congregational Union, is suffering from a serious affection of the eye, and complete rest from public work is necessary.

Major Joseph Holt, of Farnborough, Hants, one of the first directors of the "Yorkshire Post," who died December 18 last, aged eighty, has left £106,932.

Probate has been granted at £41,453 on the will of Mr. William Francis, of Messrs. Taylor and Francis, printers and publishers, Red Lion-court, E.C.

Franz von Lenbach, the premier portrait painter of Germany, has undergone a serious operation, and remains in a critical condition.

Replying to an intimation of his election to the presidency of the Eights Club, Sir William Harcourt writes:—"We have fought with unconquered

patience a long and stubborn campaign through dark and anxious days, but the decisive hour has arrived. The ranks of the foe, front and rear, are shaking all along the line, and if I am permitted to give the word to the young brigade of the Eights Club, it shall be the historical Waterloo cheer, 'Up, Guards, and at them.'"

The will of Admiral of the Fleet the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, who died January 17, aged ninety-four, has been proved at £3,468.

A Mile End child has the sole use of a £200,000 hospital and a complete medical and nursing staff.

SUCKING NELSONS.

Admiralty Scheme of Selection for Osborne Obtains a Promising Entry.

"First, to serve his King and country. Second, to be the last person to leave his ship, if wrecked. Third, to obey his superior officer." This was the written reply given by a 11½ years old candidate for a naval cadetship before the Committee of Selection to the question, What are the chief duties of a naval officer? Doubtless he was recommended for Osborne College, and certainly his career will lead to high honours if he acts up to his youthful precepts.

The committee, in their report, state they felt strongly that, with boys under twelve years old, competitive examination would have been bad, and

LIVELY SHAREHOLDERS.

Suggestion That Directors Should Be Before a Judge and Jury.

Lively encounters between shareholders and directors marked the proceedings at an extraordinary meeting of the Ashanti Central Syndicate, held in the City yesterday, when a former director, Mr. Kershaw, made an effort, with another shareholder, to have the concern voluntarily wound up. This effort was resisted by the chairman, Mr. Smurthwaite, who gave details of a series of deals with shares in another company, of which Mr. Kershaw became a director, and told of how this syndicate lost control of £8,000 in shares due to Mr. Kershaw's failure to execute an essential deal.

JAPAN DOES NOT COUNT THE COST.



The ancient gold and silver bullion from the Japanese Imperial Treasury, as well as that belonging to the present representatives of the old Daimios, or feudal nobles, has been deposited with the Bank of Japan at Tokio to form a reserve war fund. Japan is prepared to go to any lengths in her determination to defeat Russia.

It is the first and only patient in the Ringworm Hospital erected by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, which has not up to the present been used.

The Board of Guardians at Westminster yesterday received a definite offer from St. Mary Abbots (Kensington) Guardians of lads for agricultural work. Three will go on trial for a month.

Monsignor Amigo, says Reuter, has been selected by the Congregation of the Propaganda for recommendation to the Pope as the new Bishop of Southwark.

Five of the crew and the captain's wife and child are believed to have gone down with the schooner William Green in Bideford Bay.

The annual report of the Dublin "Zoo" says that the two giraffes just added to the "Zoo" were fed on the voyage on condensed milk.

Viscount Morpeth, Unionist, and Mr. Hirst Hollowell, Liberal, were nominated yesterday for the South Birmingham division.

A Bill is to be presented in Parliament next year for a railway from the east coast, to connect with the Furness line.

At the inquest yesterday on the manager of Showell's Brewery a verdict of Suicide whilst insane was returned.

The police at Buda Pest have made a remarkable arrest of thieves and blacklegs in a disused theatre.

A new Stock Exchange for Manchester is about to be built at a cost of £30,000.

A "CORNER" IN PUBLISHING?

Messrs. Horace Marshall are engaged on a scheme for establishing branches of their publishing house throughout the provinces, the probable result of which will be a state of things similar to the "tied house" system in the publicans' trade. At present, as Mr. Horace Marshall was at pains to explain yesterday, the firm has only a financial interest in certain small wholesale houses established in the country towns, notably in Portsmouth. The London house is, apart from the publishing trade, a great distributor of newspapers and magazines, and it is thought that the provincial branches will materially assist in this part of the business.

The pigeon club of Moscow has offered its services to the War Ministry for the purpose of establishing a pigeon-post between the various bodies of troops in the Far East. A Moscow surgeon proposes that trained dogs should be used to find wounded men after engagements.

it could not be relied on as a test of suitability and would have led to "cramming."

Accordingly, the procedure was adopted of classifying candidates after a personal interview with the committee, and then formally testing them by examination to see that their scholastic attainments were sufficient.

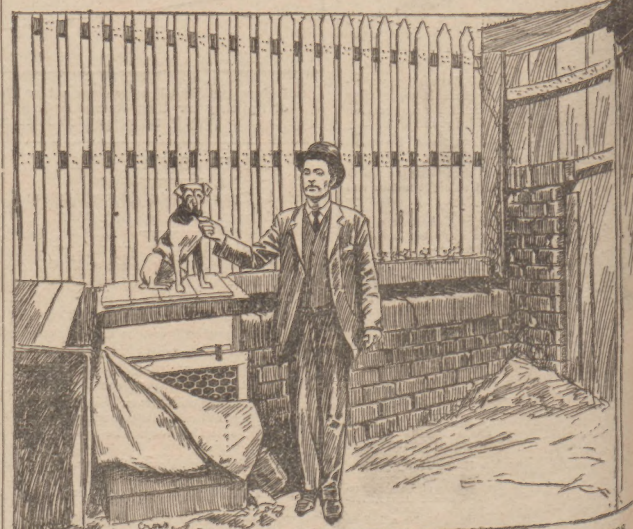
A unanimous and very decided opinion is expressed that the First Lord could not have devised a more satisfactory or more efficacious scheme of sifting the candidates, because it involved such an inquiry into all the points of fitness for the Navy as no form of the stereotyped competitive examination admits of.

With a view to securing the continuance of the syndicate, the chairman blandly informed the shareholders that they were without assets.

Mr. Kershaw persisted in his motion for the winding-up, and was followed by a gentleman who boasted of the strong language he used at a previous meeting, and expressed his determination to exceed his former efforts in that line. Acting on the letter of his threat, he denounced the syndicate as a fraud, and said that instead of holding a meeting in the City, those responsible for what had taken place ought to be before a judge and jury in the Strand.

Eventually the malcontents were mollified.

SOUGHT DEATH A SECOND TIME.



This is a sketch from a photograph of the fence, seven feet high, over which Mrs. Edith Collett, a young woman of Kilburn, climbed on to the railway after she had cut her throat with a razor. Yesterday the coroner's jury found a verdict of "Suicide whilst insane." An account of the inquest appears on page 6.

SHAREHOLDERS.

That Directors Should
efore a Judge
and Jury.

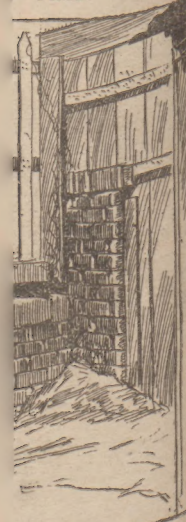
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resisted by the chairman, Mr.
gave details of a series of deals
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a director, and told of how this
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fure to execute an essential deal.



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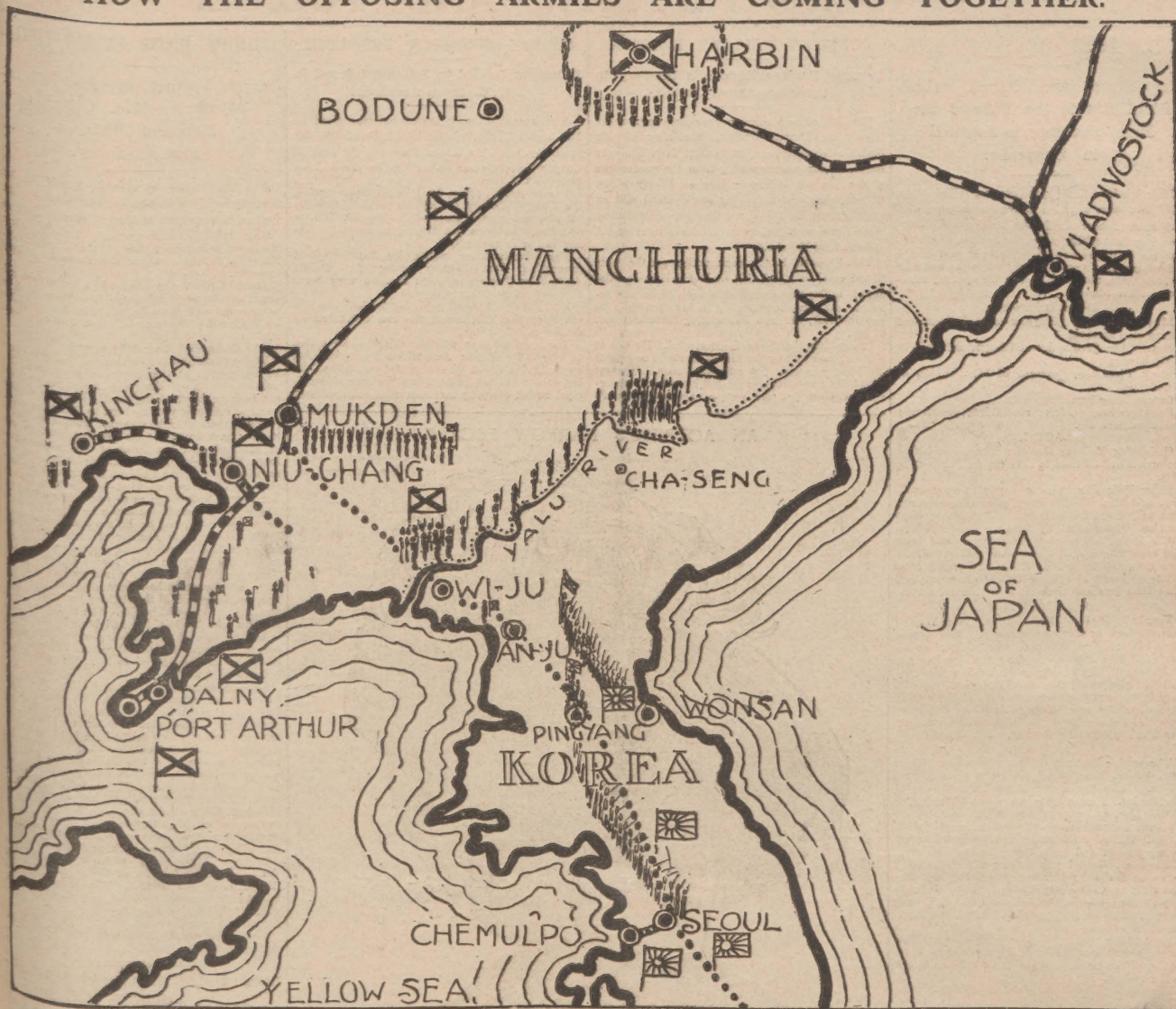
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TIME.



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f the inquest appears on page 6.

HOW THE OPPOSING ARMIES ARE COMING TOGETHER.



The Japanese troops are hurrying northward to the Yalu River, along which the chief fighting will take place shortly. One body is advancing from Seoul, the capital of Korea, and another is marching from Wonsan, on the east coast, where it disembarked. The Russian forces are holding the north bank of the river, but small parties have been seen as far south as An-ju. One skirmish between Cossack Cavalry and the Japanese has already taken place. Harbin is the Russian base of operations.

"KING EDWARD, MEDIATOR."

Absurd Story of an Alleged
Offer Ridiculed by Those
Who Know.

We have the best authority for contradicting the statement, published yesterday morning, that the Russian Ambassador, Count Benckendorff, who left England on Saturday, has been charged to inform the Tsar of King Edward's readiness to act as mediator between Russia and Japan.

"In the first place," remarked a diplomatist of high rank to a *Daily Illustrated Mirror* representative, "it would be altogether contrary to diplomatic etiquette for such an offer to be made by King Edward. If he were asked to mediate, that would be a different matter."

"In the second place, such an offer, even if it were to be made in defiance of custom, would not be made through an Ambassador. A King's messenger would be sent with a letter direct to the Tsar."

"In the third place, it is well known among diplomatists that Count Benckendorff has gone to Russia for a purely private reason, namely, to see the Tsar—an officer in the Army—before the latter goes to the front with his regiment."

"The idea that England, the ally of Japan, should offer her services as mediator to Russia, is, to be seriously considered for a moment. A paper which puts forward such a suggestion as that must have a low opinion of its readers' intelligence."

KAISER'S HOLIDAY.

No date has yet been fixed for the departure of the Kaiser for the Mediterranean, but a quantity of luggage has been sent on board the Hohenzollern at Kiel. The Imperial yacht will proceed to Malia, there to await his Majesty, who will travel by train to Genoa, and from there by the Hamburg Packetfahrt steamer Auguste Victoria. By the advice of her medical advisers, the Empress will not accompany her consort.

The gift of King Edward to the Korean King came out to have been a silver model of the pilgrim's bottle in Windsor Castle.

"RUSSIA WILL WIN IN THE END."

A Siberian Merchant Says That if She Does Not
it Will be Bad for England.

"You English people entirely fail to understand the situation. It is impossible for Russia to lose this war, and if it were possible, it would be one of the worst things for England that could happen."

The speaker's words were worthy of serious consideration. He is a Siberian merchant now on a business visit to England. He knows his country and its people as few other men do; and, moreover, is a shrewd, well-educated man.

"You think because we have lost on the sea we shall lose on land. That is a great mistake. We are not a maritime nation, and we have not, perhaps, good men for sea fighting, but we have the finest land fighters in the world. You know what trouble the Boers gave you. Well, you may take my word for it that the most cunning Boer is a foolish fighter compared to the Siberian Cossack. He is a magnificent marksman, the finest hunter in the world, and from youth up is trained to an endurance that seems incredible."

"I have seen a boy Cossack of twelve years shoot a wild duck. The wounded bird dropped into the water some hundred yards from land. It was bitterly cold, and ice was floating about on the water, but that boy threw off his outer clothes and plunged in after it in a second. He brought the bird out, resumed his clothes, and trotted off quite unconcerned after a swim in icy water that assuredly no European could have survived. And all the Cossack boys are like that. What do you think the men are like?"

"They are marvellous marksmen, and he and his horse are absolutely tireless. A Cossack thinks nothing of riding a hundred versts (seventy-five miles) without a stop."

"And of such fighting men we have hundreds of thousands in Siberia. You are accustomed to think of Siberia as an uninhabited waste, but all along the great road from the Urals to Vladivostok there are Cossack villages. There are occasional breaks in the line, but generally speaking there is a village every twenty versts over 3,000 miles of road. Think of the number of men that means."

"You talk of the difficulty we shall have in feeding our troops so far from home, and think all their provisions must be sent from Russia."

In the first place our troops do not take much feeding. A Cossack will cheerfully live and fight for weeks on a little black bread and tea, and in a second—why, sir, we have enough corn and cattle in Siberia to feed all England and Russia and our Army in Manchuria beside."

"The Siberian does not save money. Instead of cash in the bank he has cattle in the fields and corn in the barns, and thousands of them have so much corn and cattle that if they sold their stock they would be counted rich men even in a country like England. What if the line is cut in Manchuria? Thousands of cattle and millions of pounds—a pound is about thirty-six English pounds—of corn could be sent from Eastern Siberia by road."

"I Will Go!"

"The spirit of our people, your English papers say, is shaken by our defeats. Well, listen. A few days ago I asked a common Russian soldier if he were going to the front. Stolidly and indifferently he grunted 'Perhaps.' I suggested he would probably be wanted, and still unmoved, he answered: 'If the Little Father (the Tsar) wants me I shall go!' But they say Russia will be beaten! I said. In a flash the man's indifference vanished. He gripped his rifle fiercely, stood up to his full height, and shouted: 'No, no, never. I will go. I will go!' Do not believe what is written of us. That is the spirit of the Russian people. Like you English, we have generally had the worst of the beginning of a war. Like you English, we only fight the better for it."

"Yes, we shall win and we shall take Korea. Do you know it is for Korea we are fighting—not for Manchuria? Of course, we want a 'warm water' port, and we must have it."

"And think you, you English people, is it not better for you that we get to the sea at Korea? We shall as surely get to the sea as a great river flows there, and if we do not get Korea, then all the energy of our great nation will be given to breaking through to the Persian Gulf—surely that will be worse for you? Is it not better that we should be far away from you in the China Seas than close by your Indian trade route?"

JAPANESE "JACK" ABROAD.

The Delight He Takes in His
English Shopping Expeditions.

To residents at Chiswick, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Barrow-in-Furness, the Japanese sailor has become a familiar and popular figure. In recent years there have always been small colonies of them in these places, for the double purpose of receiving instruction in the working of torpedo destroyers and other war vessels, built at Thornycroft's, Armstrong's, and Vickers and Maxim's respectively to the order of their Government, and for acting as crews to take these vessels to the Far East after their trials.

In their hours of leisure these Japanese Jack Tars usually parade the streets in parties of six or seven, and, if the pavements are not too crowded, they go hand in hand, like children. They invariably behave with the greatest courtesy, making way for every passer-by. They much resemble schoolboys out for a holiday, as they laugh and chatter together, taking the greatest interest in all the sights of the town.

Like the English sailor, they greatly delight in buying presents for their loved ones left at home, and it is very entertaining to watch them shopping. An officer usually accompanies them in the capacity of interpreter, and they may be seen clustering round the windows of the large drapers' shops discussing with each other the prices of the pretty-coloured prints and muslins, which appear to have the chief attraction for them. After much consideration they enter the shop in turn, accompanied by the interpreter, and make their purchases.

Presently they emerge with large brown paper parcels under their arms, their faces fully expressing the delight they feel at having secured such gorgeous presents for wives or sweethearts in distant Japan.

TRAINING BRITISH BOYS FOR BRITISH SHIPS.

No fewer than 101 boys were last year transferred from the training ships *Arcturion* and *Chichester* into the Navy. This fact was brought out at a Mansion House meeting yesterday held in support of these ships, which are stationed at Greenhithe, and are devoted to giving a chance to poor boys throughout the kingdom, with a view to supplying British sailors for British ships. Some of the boys, said the Lord Mayor, had gained great distinction in the service.

YESTERDAY'S LAW AND POLICE.

FIVE ACTS OF A DRAMA.

The Sixth and Final, which Shall Decide the Fate of the Rival Heroines, is Awaited in Suspense.

Materials for a thrilling melodrama, full of strong situations, were supplied during the hearing of a slander suit before Mr. Justice Darling and a common jury in the King's Bench Division yesterday. For the incidents and dialogue contained in the following scenario we are indebted to the evidence of Miss Dale, the plaintiff, and the opening statement of her counsel.

Dramatis Personæ:

Miss Edith Dale [daughter of a distinguished Indian civil servant]
Mrs. White [a wealthy and important resident of Godalming]
Black Piccinanny [servant of Mrs. White, of Godalming]
Charterhouse boy.
Dogs; railway porters; constables; detectives; station-masters, etc.

ACT I.

Godalming Railway Station. Time, just before the arrival of 1.20 train to London, on February 5, 1903.

Enter little Charterhouse boy with very small dog, and Mrs. White's black piccinanny servant, with very large Irish terrier. Dogs fight; boys look on. Enter hurriedly from waiting-room Miss Edith Dale. She seizes Irish terrier and tears him from his victim. Enter Mrs. White. Words pass between the ladies. Enter 1.20 train. Mrs. White gets into one first-class compartment, and Miss Dale gets into the next one. Exit omnes.

ACT II.

Vauxhall Station. Enter train. Mrs. White's face appears at carriage window. She loudly summons railway officials, who cluster round carriage. She explains to them that she has lost a diamond-studded scent-bottle and a bracelet, and that she would like an explanation from the lady in the next compartment, who, at Godalming Station, while pretending to stop a dog-fight, pulled at her cloak when it was being carried by her black piccinanny servant. Exit train.

ACT III.

The station master's office at Waterloo. Enter Mrs. White, Miss Dale, and many officials.
Mrs. White (loquutur): I am Mrs. White, of Godalming. I am a first-class season-ticket holder on this line, and a large shareholder.

[Great impression created among the officials.]
Mrs. White, continuing: This lady came up to my servant and tugged at a coat on his arm. When she noticed I was looking at her she tried to cover her behaviour by pretending my dog was creating a disturbance. My dog was the only dog on the platform, and he was standing by my servant. This lady abused me, and walked down the platform to an accomplice.

Mrs. White then tells the officials that she fortunately had put £400, which had been in a pocket of the cloak, into the bank before she got to the station.

Miss Dale: Would you like to search me?
Railway Official: Oh, no.
Exit Miss Dale, with an official, to prove her respectability by being identified at her bankers in Pall Mall. Mrs. White has previously put down her statement in writing in presence of a station detective.

ACT IV.

Room in office of Miss Dale's solicitor. Enter solicitor reading letter from Mrs. White. Reads fragments aloud.

"I am in receipt of your letter. . . I regret that she should have thought it necessary to put the matter into your hands. . . Unprovoked interference with my belongings. . . If Miss Dale had considered it necessary to order my dog and my servant out of the station it would have been more ladylike to do it through the station-master."

ACT V.

Court III., King's Bench Division, High Court. Mr. Shearman, K.C., rises and describes events of preceding acts.

Mr. Justice Darling: Cannot you come to an agreement without going to a verdict?

Mr. Shearman, K.C., and Mr. McCall, K.C., disagree in trial to agree.

Mr. Justice Darling: I begin to sympathise with the plaintiff's feelings when she interfered between the two dogs. (Loud laughter.)

Enter in the witness-box Miss Edith Dale, a tall, graceful brunette. Miss Dale describes the dog fight. How she took the Irish terrier by the collar and "threw him away." (Loud laughter.) Miss Dale also describes the sympathetic inquiries addressed to her since the "emute" by the railway porters at Godalming.

Enter into the witness-box Mrs. Laura White, of Godalming, a handsome lady, dressed in black, who carries a large, gold-topped (no longer diamond-studded) scent-bottle.
Mrs. White tells the Court there was no fight. Her dog took hold of the little dog and would not let him go. (Loud laughter.) It was very kind, she thought at the time, of Miss Dale to separate them. Afterwards, however, Miss Dale pushed witness's dog out of the station and called him a "brute" and a "beast." Mrs. White also explains that she is now satisfied that her subsequent suspicions were unfounded.

We are unable at present to give the final act in the above engrossing drama, because the Court adjourned, until to-day, before the case was finished.

Six men, alleged to be members of a notorious gang of criminals known as "The Blind Beggars," were remanded yesterday by the Enfield magistrates on a charge of being suspected persons. They were arrested by Scotland Yard detectives at the English Cup-tie match at Tottenham on Saturday.

Charles Parr, a young man of good appearance, who was sent to three months' imprisonment by the Bow-street magistrate yesterday for burglary, was stated to be in the enjoyment of an annuity of £50 a year.

ACTRESS'S GALLANT RESCUER.

Coroner Praises Roberts's Bravery in Shielding Miss Bates.

The Birkenhead coroner yesterday opened the inquest on Thomas Gilbert, who blew out his brains after attempting to murder Miss Florence Bates, as she was returning from the pantomime at the Theatre Metropole late on Friday night. Gilbert, who was a London stockbroker, and an ex-magistrate for Essex, was formally identified by Miss Rebecca Bates, sister of the girl at whom Gilbert fired the shots.

The Coroner, briefly commenting on the facts of the case, said that Gilbert had written to Miss Bates asking for an appointment, which she refused. As she was returning to her apartment in Sussex-street, the man was waiting there and shot at her.

It was then that Roberts intervened. He ran at Gilbert, took him by the throat, and held on to him until the two girls got into the house. Gilbert asked Roberts to let him go, but he refused, whereupon Gilbert put the weapon against Roberts's

COUNTY COUNCIL'S PRIVILEGE.

Damages Denied to Persons Injured in L. C. C. Tram Accidents.

A judgment of much importance was given by Mr. Justice Channell in the King's Bench Division yesterday, when the case of Parker v. the London County Council came before him for the decision of a point of law.

The plaintiff, Parker, brought his action against the London County Council to recover damages for personal injuries received on June 16, 1902, in a collision between two electric tramscars belonging to the defendants.

The defendants set up the plea that they were exonerated from liability under the Public Authorities Protection Act, because they were carrying out a statutory duty.

Mr. Justice Channell said that he had come to the conclusion that the matter was concluded by authority.

The question was whether this was an action to which the Public Authorities Protection Act applied. No doubt when that Act was passed the legislature did not contemplate the case of municipal bodies carrying on commercial enterprises of

AN ACTRESS'S NARROW ESCAPE.



Miss Florence Bates, who appears in a provincial pantomime as one of the "Sisters Cora," has had a narrow escape. An old lover, named Thomas Gilbert, an ex-J.P. of Southend-on-Sea, tried to shoot her in the street at Birkenhead. Miss Bates and a man who came to her rescue were wounded by Gilbert, who then killed himself.

chest and fired. Fortunately the bullet didn't go straight through the body, but lodged in the skin outside the ribs, and had been since extracted, but he would be unable to attend the inquest for three weeks.

"The lad," added the Coroner, "behaved with great bravery, and I will adjourn the inquest till he can attend." The inquiry will be resumed on March 14.

AN AMATEUR'S PHOTOGRAPH.

In Clerkenwell County Court yesterday, before Judge Edge, Thomas Gardner, a tailor, who is also an amateur photographer, sued Percy Reeve, of the Barnsbury Artistic Studio, for damage done to photographic negatives and prints.

Gardner took a photograph of a wedding group and entrusted Reeve with the negatives to print a number of photographs. The order was so badly executed, he said, that he could not sell a single one. There was a spot on each one as though the negative had been tampered with.

Judge Edge (examining the print) said the spot looked like a stray sunbeam.

Reeve said that Gardner expressed his satisfaction with the work until pressed for payment. Then he attempted to assault him with his crutch. Later on, plaintiff came to his hall in Barnsbury-street and used such dreadful language that a constable had to be sent for.

Judge Edge: We are not trying the question of his language.
Reeve: There was a religious meeting going on in the hall, and we were afraid of it being upset.

Gardner: I would like to say a word or two on this question of the religious meeting.

Judge Edge: Never mind about the religious meeting. If you used the language he said you did, then it was time to have one in order to clear the atmosphere. (Laughter.)

A verdict was given in defendant's favour, the Judge remarking that the spot did not in any way affect the features of the group.

MILLIONS FOR WATER COMPANIES.

At yesterday's sitting of the Water Arbitration Court Sir E. Fry, the president, delivered the award of the arbitrators in a number of claims recently before them. In the case of the Lambeth Water Company the Court held that the undertaking could be valued as if the sinking fund applied to it, and in that event they gave £4,301,000. If, on the other hand, a superior authority should hold that they were wrong in so holding, then they awarded the sum of £4,589,000. This sum included future costs.

An award was made in a similar way in the case of the Southwark and Vauxhall Water Company, the totals being £3,603,000 and £3,926,000. In the case of the Chelsea Waterworks Company the Court made an alternative award. The sum awarded in the event of the House of Lords holding that the arbitrators were right that the maximum dividend divisible was at the rate of 10 per cent., 5 per cent., and 4½ per cent. respectively on the several classes of stock was £3,305,000. If 10 per cent. ought to be awarded on the whole capital of the company, then they awarded £3,418,000. To the Kent Water Company the arbitrators awarded £2,712,000.

Here is the position in a nutshell:—

	Claim.	Award.
Lambeth	£5,466,923	£4,301,000
Chelsea	4,750,000	3,365,000
Kent	2,981,520	2,712,000
Southwark and Vauxhall	5,313,946	3,603,000

At Hastings, yesterday, Captain Eric Gordon Short was further examined in respect of a charge of obtaining £700 by false pretences from a solicitor. The case will be resumed to-day.

WORRY ENDS IN TRAGEDY.

Jury's Verdict in the Kilburn Mystery—Mrs. Collett's Husband Tells a Pathetic Story.

The West Middlesex coroner, Dr. Hogg, last evening held the inquest on the body of Ethel Collett, twenty-three, a married woman lately residing at 11, Salusbury-road, Kilburn, whose mutilated body was found on the L. & N.W. Railway, Kilburn, under circumstances already reported.

James Collett, the husband, after giving evidence of identification, stated he always lived on good terms with his wife, whom he last saw alive on Wednesday afternoon at home before he went out.

The Coroner: Where did you go?
Witness said that he did not tell his wife where he was going, as she worried a great deal. He was going, as some relatives to Rickmansworth for the purpose of obtaining work. He started from home at half-past one, and got to Rickmansworth reaching there at eight o'clock. They commenced to walk back home at a quarter past nine, by way of Watford, and got home at ten minutes past four. Witness left himself into his house, and was surprised to find the children crying and his wife absent. He wondered what had become of her, but had no knowledge as to where she might be. There was no one in the house he could ask to do her whereabouts, and he did not know what to do.

Witness visited a number of his relatives, but failing to find his wife, took a photograph of her to the police-station and reported her absence. There the officers on duty informed him that a body of a woman had been discovered on the line, and by means of the clothing he identified her remains as those of his wife. She had not threatened to take her life, but had been in low spirits in consequence of witness being out of work. On occasions she complained of pains. Witness identified the razor produced as his. He said it had been taken from his case.

Dr. Clover stated that he was called to see the body. An examination showed that death had taken place between one and three hours previously. There were two kinds of marks of violence, one of which might have been caused by a sharp instrument and the other by a passing train. The skull was smashed and the left foot was severed from the leg. Referring to the wounds in the neck, the witness said they might have been caused by the razor produced, and possibly inflicted. They might also have been caused by another person. Death was due to fracture of the skull. He could not say whether the injuries caused by the train were inflicted during life.

Professor Percival deposed to having examined the body, and corroborated the evidence of Dr. Clover as to the wounds. The incised injuries might have been self-inflicted, but it was possible, although highly improbable, that they were inflicted by a second person.

The jury eventually returned a verdict of Suicide during temporary insanity.

LADY VIOLET BEAUCHAMP'S APPEAL.

In the Court of Appeal yesterday judgment was delivered upon an appeal by Lady Violet Beauchamp from a receiving order made against her by Mr. Registrar Giffard upon a petition by Mrs. Hugh Watt.

In divorce proceedings Sir Reginald Beauchamp obtained a dissolution of his marriage with Lady Violet, and Mrs. Watt obtained a divorce from her husband, who was co-respondent to Sir Reginald's petition. Mr. Hugh Watt subsequently married Lady Violet. Mrs. Watt in an action for libel was awarded £5,000 damages against Lady Violet in respect of a letter written by Lady Violet to Mr. Watt.

Those damages were subsequently reduced to £1,500, and neither those damages nor the costs of the libel action were paid Mrs. Watt thereupon presented a bankruptcy petition against Lady Violet, upon which the receiving order now appealed from was made.

Their lordships were of opinion that the receiving order was not bad on the ground of irregularities, and dismissed the appeal, but stayed execution of all bankruptcy proceedings for fourteen days with a view to the matter going to the House of Lords.

TUNNEL MYSTERY UNSOLVED.

At St. Pancras yesterday the coroner's inquest was held respecting the death of Miss Ellen Mugliston, whose body was found in the underground tunnel between King's-cross and Farringdon-street. The evidence of relatives showed that Miss Mugliston had been studying for a Post Office examination and was recently allowed sick leave.

Charles Brattle, a passenger guard in the train which left Farringdon-street at 4.17 p.m. on Friday, said that as his train passed a Midland train in the tunnel he heard a crash, and later found a carriage door broken off. A lady's hat lay on the seat.

Evidence that Miss Mugliston did not sign on at the Post Office on Friday last and that no one saw her there that day was given, and the jury returned an open verdict.

The Rev. A. J. Schwartz, aged sixty, curate of St. Barnabas, Kentish Town, who died suddenly of heart disease, had, it was stated at the inquest yesterday, acted as dramatic critic, writing chiefly for American papers.

The Thames Police Court magistrate, observing several long hatpins projecting from the hat worn by a young woman who applied to him yesterday for a summons for assault against a young man, whom she was formerly engaged, remarked: "You should think you do not want a summons if you are protected like a porcupine."

This is not a cabinet-making establishment, and I do not carry a 2-ft. rule about with me," said Judge Edge yesterday at Clerkenwell County Court to a witness who had come without means of measuring some window blinds which formed the cause of a dispute.

WHY WAR NEWS IS SCARCE.



Both Russia and Japan find it to their interest to keep their hands upon the cables through which war telegrams from the Far East must come. This is why there is so little intelligence of the movements of the warring Powers.

AMUSEMENTS.

HAYMARKET. TO-NIGHT at 9.
JOSEPH ENTANGLED. By Henry Arthur Jones.
Preceded at 8.20 by THE WIDOW WOOD.
MATINEE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, 2.20.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. TREE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
By David Edulose and John Luther Long.

THE DARLING OF THE GODS.
By David Edulose and John Luther Long.
MATINEE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, 2.15.
Box Office open daily 10 to 10.

IMPERIAL THEATRE, WESTMINSTER.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. LEWIS WALLER.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 8.30.
A Version of Victor Hugo's "Ray Blas," entitled
A QUEEN'S ROMANCE.
By John Davidson.

ST. JAMES'S. Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Will appear EVERY EVENING at 8.30, in
OLD HEIDELBERG.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.
Box Office open 10 to 10. Tel. 5193, Gerrard.

AUTOMOBILE SHOW.
CRYSTAL PALACE.
LAST TWO DAYS.
ADMISSION ONE SHILLING.
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A SUPERB EXHIBITION
OF THE
FINEST CARS,
BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

AUTOMOBILE SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE.
THE LARGEST AND ONLY
REPRESENTATIVE EXHIBITION OF THE YEAR.
EVERY WELL-KNOWN MAKE OF
MOTOR CARS,
MOTOR LORRIES
MOTORS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES,
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LAST TWO DAYS.
TRIAL TRIPS IN ALL THE LATEST CARS.
CARS RUNNING IN THE GROUNDS.
SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAINS FROM
VICTORIA (SOUTH-EASTERN).
At 12.30 and 4.25.

AUTOMOBILE SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE.
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ADMISSION ONE SHILLING.
WEDNESDAY, 8s. 6d.

PERSONAL.
WANTED to purchase, volumes of the "Weekly Dispatch,"
for each year from 1901 to 1904 inclusive, and for the
years 1899, 70, and 71.—Address 31, "Daily Mail" Office,
Lancaster House, E.C.

The Daily Illustrated Mirror.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1904.

GUARANTEED DAILY CIRCULATION
EXCEEDS 120,000 COPIES.

A Timely Demonstration.

The absurd story (to which in another column we are able to offer an authoritative denial) about King Edward having offered his services to the Tsar as mediator between Russia and Japan shows, with other similar rumours which are floating about, the grave effect which the possible widening of the Far Eastern sphere of conflict has upon the popular imagination. During the last few days the war has come home to us in Britain with a more poignant interest. It is one thing to watch two men fighting in the street from a safe distance, and quite another to feel that any minute you may be forced to intervene in the row yourself.

We know perfectly well that France has no wish to fight with anyone just at present, least of all with us. Thanks to the King's visit, and to President Loubet's stay in this country, the two nations are upon excellent terms. Yet, if Russia were to appeal to France to create a diversion in her favour and to help her with a naval force, it is difficult to know what answer France would make. Supposing she said, "No," her alliance with Russia, upon which she has been building such great hopes for many years past, would be at an end, and she would feel that her policy of the last decade had had no result whatever.

Even though she were exceedingly reluctant to take a hand, this argument might be very difficult to get over; and as soon as she joined Russia, we should be obliged, by the terms of our alliance, to join forces with Japan. We ought, therefore, to make it our business to be thoroughly well prepared for anything that may happen, all the more since

it is within the bounds of possibility that Germany might consider it to her interest to assist Russia as well. Seeing that our Navy is so much more powerful than that of any other single nation and that Russia's is so much weakened already by the daring Japanese attacks, it would not serve the Tsar's purpose to gain the aid of one ally alone. We must be prepared, then, to find him seeking assistance both from France and from Germany, and we must make preparations accordingly.

No one can say that the Tsar will do this, nor is it possible to do more than hazard a guess as to what France and Germany would reply if he did it. But it is wise to take out an umbrella if you think there are any indications of coming rain; and a nation which is determined to keep its place among the leading Powers of the world must shape its policy not merely according to what is happening, but according to the possibilities—even the remote possibilities—of the situation.

It is quite likely that the King's visit to Portsmouth was designed to draw the attention of other Powers to our readiness for naval war. At any rate, the evolutions of our well-handled submarines and the efficient manœuvring of the Portsmouth flotilla of deadly "destroyers" cannot fail to have given our friends on the Continent a good deal to think about.

BREAKFAST TABLE TALK.

Owing to the refusal of the Hanworth School authorities to allow him the use of their buildings for a meeting, Sir Geo. Kekewich will have to address the electors on Bear Green. He has decided to green and bear it.

It is reported that there will be no combined Army manœuvres next summer. This may either be owing to a design to avoid anything like preparation, in view of possible European complications, or to the fact that there probably will not be any summer.

February 27 is the centenary of the Serbian revolt under King Peter's grandfather, and will be a public holiday. Anniversaries of revolutions are not kept in Serbia as this would mean that the number of working days would be reduced to a minimum.

An American Historical Society is collecting moth-eaten jests and mouldy puns with

the object of showing how little humour has progressed since earlier days. The work is being eagerly subscribed for by editors of comic papers, both in the States and this country.

The notorious Gabrielle Bompard has been installed in the box-office of a small music-hall in Paris. Doubtless some people like buying their tickets from a murderess, though the taste is hard to understand. It would be much more exciting to have "your ticket or your life" demanded by a checktaker who had been convicted of the capital offence.

The "United Service Gazette" for this week contains the 25th canto (eighty lines) of Mrs. Jane H. Oakley's poem on Somaliland. Of the Mullah the gifted authoress says:—

He camps *himself* at Sotl—undoubted fact—
His fighting Force is now reported small;
The Tribesmen may be scatter'd far, and wide;
His Body Guard are, chiefly, Spearmen all.

Notice how the terrible temptation to rhyme "Sotl" with "small" is avoided, the writer preferring to use the word "all," the comprehensiveness of which is judiciously tempered by the tactful insertion of "chiefly." Mrs. Oakley is, in truth, no ordinary writer.

Mr. Justice Channell, having decided in the King's Bench Division yesterday, that the L.C.C. are not liable for injuries received through accidents on their tramway system, we hope we have heard the last of cars being delayed by congestion of traffic.

Sing hey for the joys of the merry, grand slam,
Sing ho for the crash on the rails;
If you're properly reckless in driving a tram,
'Tis seldom the policy fails;
If anything happens to stand in the way,
Remember it isn't the Council who pay.

A race with the car that's ahead on the track,
In the style of the "Varsity," "bumps,"
Is exciting, although when you splinter its back,
It may give the poor passengers jumps,
And if anyone loses a leg or an arm,
Except the officials, it adds to the charm.

But, oh, for a smash on the next single line,
When your rival is met face to face;
For the telescoped cars look excessively fine
If you hop off in time from your place,
And you see all the passengers mixed in a heap,
And reflect that the job has been done on the cheap.

The Russian admirals and generals have been attacked with a sudden burst of energy, and have fallen without mercy on the Japanese troops—in the course of recent speeches. The Japs, who are described as "perfidious" and "bandits," are bearing the assault wonderfully well.

THE GUARANTEED CIRCULATION OF "THE DAILY ILLUSTRATED"

THE KING SEES HIS SAILORS WORK.

The Power of High Explosives Shown at Portsmouth.

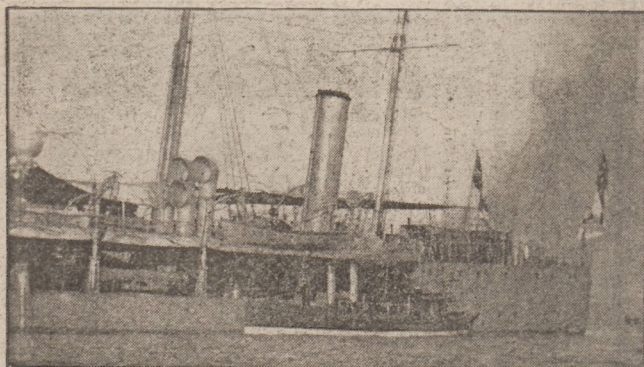
During the King's visit to Portsmouth he made a special inspection of Whale Island, where the British sailor receives his instruction in gunnery. The display given by the bluejackets showed how the "Handyman" has earned his name, for there seems to be hardly anything which he cannot do with a field-gun.

The guns were dismantled, and the gun-carriages taken to pieces, passed over a high wall, and then put together again in an incredibly short time. Afterwards this wall was blown up with dynamite to show how thoroughly a dynamite cartridge does its work. The King also inspected the torpedo-boats, for he fully understands the important part which they have played in the Japanese defeat of the Russian Navy.

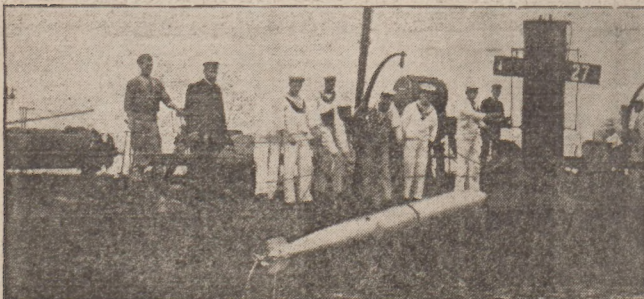
THE HANDYMAN NOT TO BE BEATEN.



There is nowhere the "Handymen" cannot take a gun. During the display before the King, at Whale Island, they showed that a wall is no obstacle to them. The guns were dismantled, passed over a wall, and then put together again. The photograph is from the King's point of view. [Russell]



While at Portsmouth the King visited the Thames, the mother ship of the submarines, in order to inspect these latest additions to our Navy. The picture shows him going on board from the Admiral's small green launch.

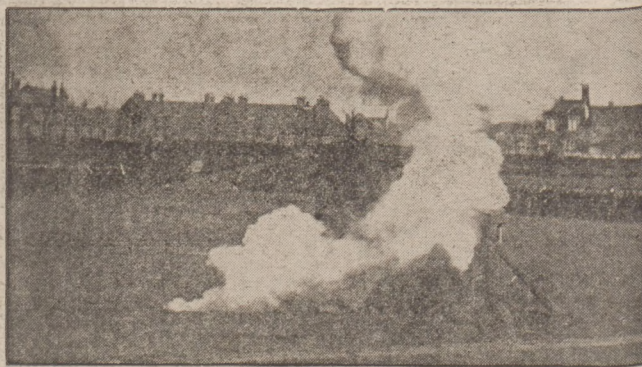


During his inspection of the torpedo flotilla the King watched every action incidental to the use of these "sea hornets." Getting a torpedo back on board after it has been fired is not an easy business—especially if the torpedo be loaded. [Cribb]

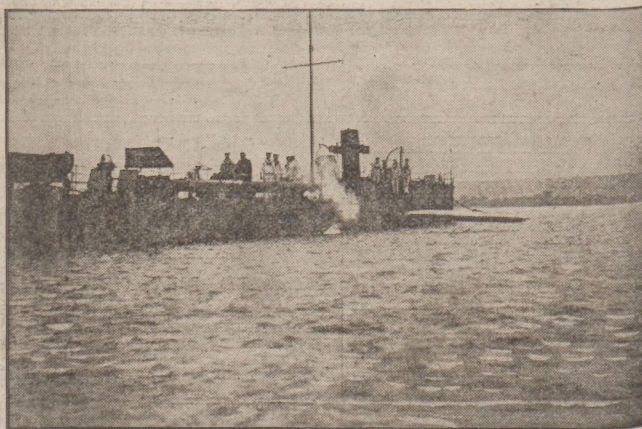
WAS HE THE "MISSING LINK"?



Consul, the famous "human chimpanzee," who might almost have claimed to be the "missing link," has just died in Berlin from an attack of bronchitis. Consul had his own physician, who travelled with him, but all efforts to save him were useless. He was insured for £20,000. In a reflective mood, and with a cigar in his mouth, Consul looked like a little old man. He was recently at the London Hippodrome.



The quickest way of removing a wall is to blow it up with dynamite. During the display by the sailors at Whale Island they showed the King how thoroughly a dynamite cartridge does its work. [Cribb]



The torpedo is fired from either above or below the water line of the torpedo boat, by compressed air or a small charge of an explosive. This picture shows the torpedo just as it has left the torpedo tube and before it has reached the water. Once in the water it travels by its own machinery. [Cribb]

WAITING FOR THE VICTIMS' BODIES.



At the terrible fire which broke out in a celluloid factory in Paris, on Saturday, the girls in the upper stories of the building were cut off by the flames. Some flung themselves into the street and were killed, others were suffocated inside the building. Fourteen were killed and twelve injured. The picture shows the ambulance waiting for the charred bodies.



The fierce sn



In the plains of
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During the fierce
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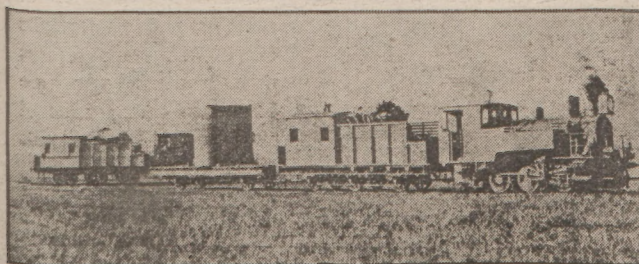
DAILY ILLUSTRATED MIRROR" EXCEEDS 120,000 COPIES PER DAY.

"GENERAL FEBRUARY" IS ON THE SIDE OF JAPAN.



Julius M. Price

The fierce snow storms which are sweeping across Manchuria are giving the Russian forces the greatest trouble. Once the stores have left the railway line they have to be carried across country in small pony sledges. The transport trains are often almost buried in the snow drifts.



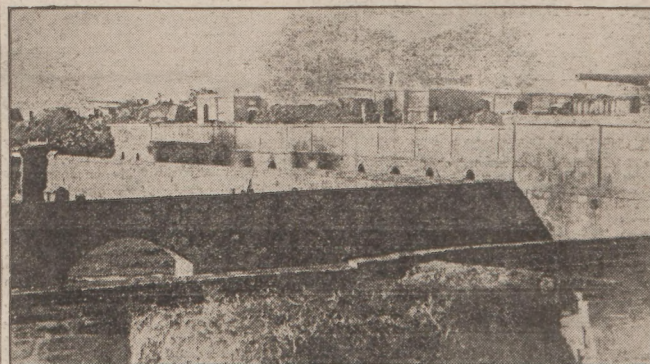
In the plains of North Manchuria there is no water, and each engine carries its own water supply in a tank. The Jap sharpshooters will no doubt try to "hang up" the trains by firing through the tanks.

HOW THE GIRLS WERE RESCUED.

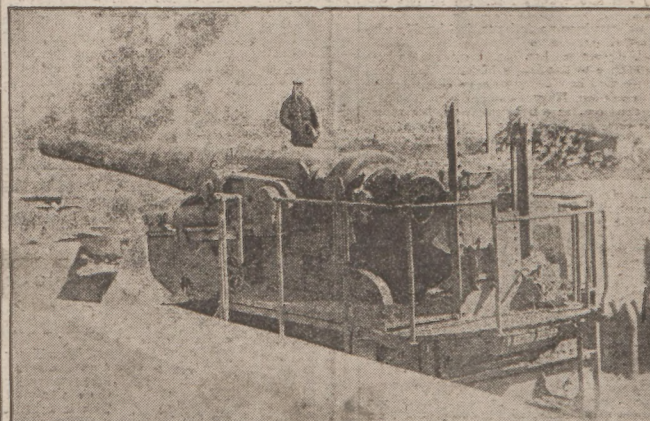


During the fierce fire in a celluloid factory in Paris, on Saturday, many of the unfortunate workgirls, who found the staircase enveloped in flames, were rescued by means of fire escapes, but fourteen lost their lives. This picture shows the escapes at work.

CAN RUSSIA HOLD PORT ARTHUR?



Port Arthur has been strongly fortified by the Russians. Some experts say that it is impregnable, but the Japanese have no doubts as to their ability to capture it. The task which they have before them is well shown by this picture of part of the actual fortifications.



This is a closer view of one of the large guns which are seen above the line of fortifications in the picture above. A Russian sentry is standing on guard at the side of the huge cannon. The Russians do all they can to keep the details of their batteries secret.

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(Russell)

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(Cribb)

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y. (Cribb)

DIES.

he girls in the upper the street and were twelve injured. The

THE PATH OF THE PRODIGAL.

A Story of the "Never-Never Land."

By Wilson Barrett,

who is appearing this week at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, and will appear next week at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

PERSONS OF THE STORY.
 JACK MOWBRAY: Impersonating Jack Landale, his dead bush-chum, at the latter's urgent death-bed request; in love with Sibyl Landale.
 TOM HEWLEY: His friend and private secretary.
 LADY WALGROVE: Jack Landale's mother.
 SYBIL: Landale's sister, who regards the false Jack with deep sisterly affection.
 LONNA: Her friend, and also a great friend of Tom's.
 SAL RUDDER: Known as Mrs. Jack Landale, whom she bigamously married.
 NATHAN BERKER: Sal's real husband, passing as her brother for the purpose of blackmailing Mowbray.
 LUCY RUDDER: Also called "Smudgee," passed off by Sal as Landale's child.
 RAFAEL M. WOLFE: A Sydney solicitor, who is standing in with Nat and Sal.
 WONG: Mowbray's Chinese servant.

CHAPTER XXXIV. (continued).

There was a broad smile of satisfaction on Wong's face as he poured the drops of opium into the three glasses. But at the door he almost ran into the arms of Nat, who entered with Sal and Wolfe and Tom. Quickly turning his head, so that neither Nat nor Sal could see his face, he left the room.

"Where have I seen that bloomin' Ching-Ching afore?" said Nat to Sal.

"Never, p'raps," Sal answered. "Chinamen are all alike."

Saying: "Please sit down. I'll bring Mr. Landale to you," Tom left the three conspirators to themselves.

It did not take Nat long to discover the whisky and help himself and Sal to a copious draught of it.

"What a place, a palis—Crystal-Buckingham-Windsor-Pallis, ain't it Sal?" he asked, draining the glass at a gulp.

"Fancy livin' 'ere," exclaimed Sal, following his example.

"Now, be careful; no more of that stuff, or you'll make a mess of it," cautioned Wolfe.

"I'm all of a shiver," exclaimed Sal.

"I got the St. Wits-us-es, I think—or the jumps."

"Shut up!" whispered Wolfe. "He's here."

Jack, followed by Tom, entered the room.

"Well, what do you want?" Jack asked. He was pale, but calm and determined.

"This is our solicitor, Mr. Rafael M. Wolfe," said Nat.

"Well?"

"Had we not better be alone?" asked Wolfe.

"No; I have no secrets from my friend," replied Jack.

"All right. You know my client, I think?" Mrs. John—Isabel—otherwise, Landale. You admit her identity, of course?"

"I admit nothing."

"You know I'm Mrs. Landale!" Sal was annoyed at Jack's contemptuous indifference towards her.

"Please leave this lady alone, to me," Wolfe snapped out, for Nat and Sal were shifty and uneasy.

"Who are you?" Jack asked of Nat.

"I'm this lady's brother, Nathan Berker," blustered Nat.

"Haven't I seen you before?"

"Very likely, Sydney. What do you want?"

"It was not in Sydney. What do you want?" Jack's manner was not pleasant.

"You're a man of business, I hope, Mr. Mowbray—"

"Landale, please," Jack retorted, sharply.

"Come, come, don't waste my time."

"Go on, then."

Wolfe saw that he had no coward or common man to deal with, and determined to lose no time in preliminaries. He said: "You are not John Landale; you are John Mowbray, convicted on the 10th November, 1888, at Sydney Assizes, for being concerned in the sticking-up of the Wurramurra Bank. You were sentenced, as John Landale, to three years' imprisonment, and were sent to Berrima Prison, and escaped from there on the 4th January, 1889. All this time John Landale, otherwise Landale, was living with this lady as her husband; he never left her. You are an impostor. You are committing a fraud; and, in addition to completing your original sentence of three years, you will be liable for at least another seven years for this crime."

Jack heard all this without moving a muscle. He stood on the hearth, his hands behind his back, staring full into Wolfe's face. All he said was "Go on."

"My clients have no desire to deal harshly with you, but they mean to have their rights. Sir James Walgrove left Landale Abbey and the bulk of his fortune to this lady's husband, John Landale. He died in Woollogoolonga Gully, on the 12th January last. He was buried there. The property, therefore, reverts to his heirs, his widow and his daughter Lucy, now aged fourteen. On behalf of my clients, I claim the property, and demand from your confession, and were sent to Berrima Prison, and escaped from there on the 4th January, 1889. All this time John Landale, otherwise Landale, was living with this lady as her husband; he never left her. You are an impostor. You are committing a fraud; and, in addition to completing your original sentence of three years, you will be liable for at least another seven years for this crime."

"What else?"

"On consideration of your doing, this and resigning the property, giving up possession peacefully and in order, we will undertake to hold our tongues regarding your Wurramurra sentence—leave that to John Landale, now deceased—and allow you what you are now allowing the woman and child you are defrauding, namely, £2,000 a year."

"And if I do not consent?"

"I go to the nearest police-station and apply for a warrant for your apprehension."

"They'll want some evidence, I fancy," said Jack quietly.

"That's my business. As I have been pretty accurate in my account of the whole matter you may credit me, I think, with knowing what I am talking about and doing."

Turning again to Wolfe, Jack asked, "What if I tell you that you have lied? That I am John Landale, that I never married that woman, that I

changed names and places with John Mowbray for purposes of my own, which do not concern you?"

"That won't pass. John Landale was never called Mowbray."

"For the sake of argument, and without prejudice, suppose I admit the truth of what you say—Lady Walgrove has recognised me as her son; her daughter owns me as her brother."

"Lady Walgrove is a witness, I admit. Her daughter is not. She was an infant when Landale left home. Nothing but your abandonment of the property and the confession I have named will suffice."

Jack's face wore an ugly look as he looked straight into Wolfe's eyes, saying, "Then do your worst. I am here," he said sternly, "to save an old woman's life and her daughter's happiness, and until you have proved your case, and the police drag me out of this house, here I stay. Now go." He rang the bell, and Wong glided in. Turning to him Jack continued: "Wong, show these people out. If they refuse to go, I'll get you, Tom, to go to the telephone and ask the police inspector to send some men to remove and arrest them for trespass. Now, Mr. Wolfe, you have my answer. Go."

Wolfe looked at Sal and Nat in horror. Nat was breathing heavily. His eyes were closed, his mouth wide open. Sal was muttering, "Be hang—want—me—proper—prop—"

"What in goodness is the matter?" cried Wolfe. "Here, wake up—wake up!" And he shook Nat savagely.

Sal continued in a half-stupefied manner: "I tell you—I'm Mrs. Jack Landale—call everybody—let 'em know—let 'em know—"

Sal's head sank upon her breast. Wong's opium had done its work upon her and Nat.

The door opened, and to Jack's horror, Sibyl entered. Looking round her with amazement, she asked:

"Jack, Jack, who are these people?"

Wolfe stepped forward, saying, "Mr. Nathan Berker and Mrs. John —"

"Say that word, and, by God, I'll kill you," Jack whispered to Wolfe.

Here Tom stepped forward to Sibyl, and said, "I'm deeply ashamed Miss Landale, they are old acquaintances of mine. I have entertained them not wisely, but too well. I apologise for their disgraceful condition and will drive them to the nearest hotel."

"Please come with me, Sibyl," urged Jack. "These people are intruders, and will be turned out of the house."

Taking her arm, he led the wondering girl out of the room.

CHAPTER XXXV. Nat and Sal Revive.

Tom Hewley had gone through many strange experiences in his brief and extremely varied career, but it is doubtful if he ever had a more puzzling task than that which he now found himself compelled to undertake—namely, the removal of the inmates of Sal and Nat from Landale Abbey. Get them away he must, but how? Alternately shaking them and cursing Mr. Wolfe helped to relieve his feelings, but did not effect the removal of the slumbering ones, nor disturb the temper of the very wide-awake lawyer. Mr. Rafael M. Wolfe had been cursed too often in his time to be moved at any form of vituperation that could be levelled at him. Moreover, Mr. Wolfe was too much occupied with his own thoughts to trouble over Tom's abuse. What, in the name of Bacchus, had these two old toppers, Nat and Sal, swallowed that they should be so overcome? He did not for a moment think Jack would be such a fool as to run the risk of imprisonment by dragging these people in Landale Abbey. Yet it was impossible that a few glasses of whisky could have wrought such havoc. He smelt the decanter and the glasses. He leaped nothing by that.

Growing weary of watching Wolfe's investigations, Tom said to that individual:

"When you've quite finished your little inquest, I shall be extremely grateful if you will assist me in conveying this cargo of alcohol."—Tom signified by a nod of the head that he was alluding to Nat and Sal—"to some more suitable storage than Landale Abbey. This is not a bonded liquor warehouse."

"My energetic and venturesome young friend, you will find that the removal of my friends will not be so easy a matter as you seem to imagine. Between them they weigh down the scales at about twenty-eight stone. The lady will require the attention of at least three like me, and the gentleman of at least an equal number like yourself to get them out of the room, much less downstairs and into my carriage. Moreover, the removal of two individuals in such a condition as that of these very estimable acquaintances of mine cannot take place without causing some considerable astonishment in the servants' hall. I presume this is not an or-

diinary occurrence in Landale Abbey, Mr. Hewley?"

"You may safely bet your best patent leathers on that."

"If I might suggest, I should like to try the effect of a bucket of water—iced, for choice—over that most estimable lady, and two buckets of the same fluid over her friend. But the carpet would certainly suffer."

Mr. Wolfe was resting his back against an escritoire, his hands were deep in his trousers pockets, his head a little inclined to one side, while his eyes were leisurely regarding Nat and Sal. Tom was reminded of the attitude of an old raven contemplating a doubtful worm.

"Any other suggestion, Mr. Wolfe?"

"Yes; ring for the Chinaman, and leave the matter to him."

The hint startled Tom a little. It was just such a thing as Wong, out of his love for Jack, might attempt. No doubt he had dragged them. Here was another serious trouble. Mischief of the most painful kind might accrue. He must see Wong alone, and, if possible, learn what he had done. Turning to Wolfe, he said quietly:

"If you will keep your eye on your friends for a few minutes I'll find him."

"Pray do not hurry, on account of my 'friends.' There is no danger of their running away just at present. You will find them here on your return, I have no doubt." Mr. Wolfe drew an easy chair up to the fire, helped himself to a cigar, and sat down for a comfortable smoke.

Tom went in search of Wong.

Turning towards his "distinguished clients" Mr. Wolfe apostrophised them under his breath. "You drunken pigs; may all the plagues of alcohol golden your brains when I have done with you. But I must keep you moderately sober until then. Pretty tools to work with, certainly."

Mr. Wolfe rose, and, sauntering leisurely to Nat, took hold of his ear and wrung it hard enough to wake any but a drugged man to a fury.

"You drunken brute; you swill-tub on two legs; take that!" And once more the ear of the unconscious Nat was wrung.

At this time the pain penetrated even through the drug, and Nat gave a smothered groan.

"Oh, so you can feel that, can you?" snarled Wolfe. "Then we'll try another." And again he twisted the ear of the sleeping man.

Mr. Wolfe seldom allowed himself the luxury of losing his temper, but he often indulged his spite, if it could be done without cost to himself. His visit to Landale had not been as profitable as he had hoped. The thought induced him once more to turn his attention to Nat's ear; and again Nat groaned.

Tom returned with Wong. Wolfe scrutinised his face narrowly. He might as well have tried to see through the Great Wall of Wong's native land. His face was impenetrable.

"What is the matter with those people?" Wolfe asked sternly, whilst Wong stared with placid indifference, shaking his head sadly, and said:

"Wong not know."

Wong ambled to them, looked at them, at the whisky decanter and glasses, and then said: "Too much whisky hab got."

"Well, Wong," Tom joined in, "we want to get them out of the house pretty quick. Can you help?"

Then Wong smiled, and did a very odd thing. Going to Nat, he shut that individual's wide-open mouth, took a small box from the inexhaustible sleeve, opened it, and, taking some yellow-coloured powder from it, forced it into Nat's nostrils, through which the water went noisily, then, wrenching his head free from Wong's hand, sneezed violently for some minutes, during which Wong placidly repeated the operation on Sal.

Soon the room rang with their sneezes. Wong, watching the effect with his ample smile, said:

"Bole pretty soon wake now presently."

And "bole pretty soon" did wake, if not to entire consciousness, at least to a confused state, which, with a helping arm, they could walk with moderate directness downstairs to the carriage which was waiting to convey them to the station.

They were too dazed and stupid to talk. They glared about them with fishy, lack-lustre eyes, and occasionally muttered incoherently broken sentences, in which the words "whisky and soda" occurred with curious frequency. Mr. Wolfe left them to themselves on the journey back to town, bundled them into a four-wheeler on arrival, gave the cabman their address, and, without even a word of parting, went his way to his temporary office, and wrote, then a note.

When this note from Wong arrived it was handed to Smudgee. After seeing the waiter out of the room, Smudgee asked the chambermaid for a jug of hot water, and retired with it and the letter to her own room. Placing the letter over the hot-water jug, she quietly steamed it, opened it carefully, saying to herself: "Now, Mr. Rafael Moss Wolfe, we will see what you have got to say to my respected master and my beloved new Uncle Nathan Berker-Rudder."

To be continued.

If the two correspondents who have written on the subject of "Double Harness" will send their names and addresses, we shall be happy to communicate with them.

EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK.

WILSON BARRETT, SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, S.W.

TUES., WED. (afternoon and evening).

"SIGN OF THE CROSS."

THURS., FRI., SAT., "SILVER KING."

Box Offices Now Open. Ordinary Prices.

NEXT WEEK, KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

CONCERNING WAR

Readers of the "Daily Illustrated Mirror" will next week be able to obtain Part I. of a superb new work to be issued in sixpenny fortnightly numbers, entitled

"Japan's Fight for Freedom,"

By the author of "With the Flag to Pretoria." "Japan's Fight for Freedom" will be a complete and thoroughly accurate and picturesque record of Japan's struggle with Russia, and will be beautifully printed. The illustrations will consist of sketches and photographs supplied by the numerous correspondents who are busily collecting material in the Far East for this important history.

ALL THOSE WHO DESIRE TO OBTAIN

"Japan's Fight for Freedom"

should give their news-agent an order **TO-DAY.**

WITH PART I.

will be presented a specially prepared and attractively coloured map, showing the entire area likely to be affected by both the naval and military operations.

£100 PRIZE CONTEST

Can you Count the Dots in the Circle?

21,750 SPECIAL PRIZES

We will pay £100 IN CASH to those sending us the correct answer. We will also give 21,750 SPECIAL PRIZES ranging in value up to half-a-guinea to those who send correct answers. Send No Money. This is a FREE CONTEST. There is only one condition which will cost you nothing. Count the dots carefully, and send your answer at once. This is a genuine and interesting puzzle, but is not so easy as it looks. Reply on a post-card if you like. We will send you full lists of 21,750 prizes, names of recent cash winners, &c. INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY STORES, Dept. 116 - 108, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

RUSSIA MAKES A BLUNDER.



The Russian squadron which is cruising near Aden, tried to cut off the P. and O. liner Mongolia, on Saturday, but failed. The squadron then gave chase, but could not catch the fast liner, which they evidently mistook for a Japanese boat. As they could not overtake her, they signalled for her to stop, which she immediately did. "Beg to be excused," signalled the Russians when they got near enough to find out their mistake.

NOTIONS ON NOSES.

How a Girl Can Judge Her Lover's Character by the Shape of His Nose.

With all the assistance that modern science has given to the searching and stripping of man's character without giving him reasonable time to reveal himself, ladies who are minded to select a life-partner are now advised to have an eye to his nose, for on the characteristics of this leading feature all his goodness or badness depends. They are cautioned, when choosing a lover, "to avoid the man whose nose shows any natural deformity or twisting," for in such a sad case unbusiness must inevitably follow the certain development of a corresponding twist or flaw in his mental nature.

The man who possesses a perfectly-shaped nose is supposed to be blessed with a congenial personality, the other features, for a perfect nose never harmonises with a deformed face. Though the beautiful eyes may be found for the one who is absolutely perfect, but whenever the true nose is deformed, it indicates an excellent and distinguished character.

These unfortunate beings, however, who possess what may be gently described as ill-favoured noses may take heart from an expert's statement that many persons of the greatest merit have deformed noses, and an eminent physiognomist, when seen by a representative of the *Daily Illustrated Mirror*, said: "Young men need not be very much alarmed concerning their noses, unless they be very much deformed indeed, for the girl who can judge the character of her lover by the shape of

his nose must necessarily be a very clever physiognomist. Though the nose may possess all the essential qualities for physiognomical purposes—more so than the hand, the eyes, the mouth, or the cranium—yet it requires a very clever and assiduous student to judge character from that feature alone.

"I have known men, uncommonly judicious, of great integrity, and unbounded generosity, to possess very small noses, sloping in profile, though otherwise perfectly organised. They were invariably of a gentle disposition, patient, attentive, and docile. I would not advise the young lover to worry very much over the shape of his nasal organ, for, no matter how curved or twisted it may be, it may otherwise possess points denoting everything that could possibly be desired.

Our representative also called at an establishment which in addition to remedying other flaws of beauty has a special department for the treatment of the nose. "We have treated all sorts and conditions of noses," said the manager, "from the concave pugnacious to the nose of the Julius Caesar type. Only a few weeks ago we had a very bad case of the concave type, but which turned out a perfect success. The nose was lanced straight down the ridge, small layers of bone were inserted, raising the organ to a natural size, then the skin was drawn tightly over the wedges and stitched. A fortnight later, when the inflammation had decreased, these electric implements (pointing to some small instruments which lay on the table) were applied to the ridge, removing all traces of the recent operation. Even the man who lanced the nose hardly recognised his patient, so great was the change when the operation had been completed.

"We do not have very many young men among our patients," he continued. "The deformity of the nose is not so noticeable whilst the bloom of youth adorns the features, and not so prominent as when they reach a ripener age. I suppose the average age of the people we treat would be about thirty-five or forty years.

"Ladies? Oh, yes, we treat ladies, too, but then this statement concerns male lovers only."

TREASURES OF THE HUMBLE.

London's Mean Streets Still Offer Great Chances to Collectors.

A *Daily Illustrated Mirror* representative was looking into a "general dealer's" window in a West London slum yesterday morning, and was struck by the number of old volumes exposed for sale.

Entering into conversation with the proprietor, he was told that in the slums of London may be found all kinds of rare books.

"Only the other day I found among a lot of rubbish turned out of the dirtiest house in one of the dirtiest little old streets in Chelsea a first edition of Spenser's 'Faerie Queene.' It cost me sixpence, and I sold it for £110. The family were hard up, and I kept them for six weeks until the father got work. He doesn't know why I did it to this day! But I couldn't pocket the whole profit without letting them get some benefit out of the 'find.'

"Another man brought me six volumes of a very rare edition of Pope's works. 'There are two missing,' I said. 'Can't you find them?' 'Why, the children tore them up only yesterday morning,' was his answer. 'I wish I'd known they were of value.'

"Sometimes people won't sell when they have got good things. There's an old woman in a two-roomed cottage down a mews who's got a collection of china that I've offered £500 for. I know I could get £1,000 for it easy. But she won't part with so much as a saucer.

"Take it from me, the slums are the only places left where a collector can pick up bargains, and when he finds 'em, they are bargains worth having!"

TRADESMEN AND CREDIT.

Cash System is Not Suitable for the West End.

The alarm occasioned among tradesmen by a recent verdict in favour of a husband who was declared not responsible for his wife's dress bills, as she had exceeded her allowance, is calming down.

In the first moments of excitement, tradesmen considered strict measures must be adopted, but reflection has shown that more had been made of the judgment than was really necessary.

A West End costumier told a *Daily Illustrated Mirror* representative yesterday that when a firm got badly "let in" it was usually their own fault. In all cases the most careful inquiries are made when a new client gives an extensive order, and when old customers get badly in arrears a polite note, or, as a last resource, a personal visit, generally results in a cheque "on account."

Another firm told the *Daily Illustrated Mirror* representative that they never summoned a client, and in this way had enormously increased their business. "As a matter of fact," they said, "we could not exist without the credit system, as people are always ready to give better prices for an article if they do not have to pay cash, and we find the credit system suits us very well."

In some cases an outstanding account is due to forgetfulness, but many wealthy persons, like a certain distinguished peer, positively dislike paying away money, and postpone drawing a cheque until the last possible moment.

A stone-mason of Nagy-Bajom, Hungary, in a fit of jealousy of his sweetheart, who danced with a rival, exploded 5lb. of gunpowder in a dancing-hall, killing four persons outright and severely injuring eight others.

A PAGE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO WOMEN.

THE DAINTY LITTLE LADIES OF JAPAN.

WIVES WHO UNDERSTAND LITERALLY THE WORD OBEY.

(BY ONE WHO KNOWS THEM.)

The Japanese women have always had a peculiar fascination for the westerner. From the crown of her blue-black head to the tips of her dainty white socks Mimosa San is a quaint little personage; gentle, quiet, and unassuming, and as great a contrast to the "moderna woman" as one could possibly imagine.

The new-woman movement, if it exists at all in Japan, is in its infancy. Although there are actually women doctors, the emancipated woman is a rare phenomenon; and it will take the Japanese longer to recognise the rights of their womenfolk than it has taken them to build a navy. In the large hospitals, which are managed after European methods, the little white-clad nurses have proved

upon it which some artist-designer had laboured in love of his art to produce.

When a Japanese lady adopts English dress she will go to any expense to secure a successful result, and have every detail of the gown complete. One finds an opportunity of studying the partly Europeanised Japanese at the hotels. In the two principal ones in the country—the Grand, at Yokohama, and the Imperial Hotel, at Tokio—little Japanese ladies in European clothes occasionally dine with their English friends; more generally, however, the little men come to dinner, whilst their wives remain in the privacy and obscurity of home.

Hotel Life in Japan.

"I lived for some time in an Anglo-Japanese hotel at Kyoto where the European section is an unwieldy appendage of the Japanese house. Half the people at dinner were Japanese, and it was with interest that we watched the little parties of men, and sometimes women, dining after the fashion of the foreigner.

One night a couple of Europeanised Japanese dined at the next table, each accompanied by his little wife. The men were smugly complacent; they came into the room first, the quiet little wives

women in the world how to obey, and she who cannot please her little master is liable to be summarily dismissed or divorced on very short notice. Sitting in the verandah later in the evening, I saw my little party leave the hotel. The men came to the door first, and with umbrellas aloft and big cigars in their mouths, marched down the avenue, unspeakably comical in their drab-coloured English clothes, which looked as if they had been made for somebody half as big again.

The toddling wives paused at the threshold to remove the straw footgear of the hotel and get their getas—three or four inch long wooden stilt, about three inches high, which they wear in the street. A long way behind their better halves, they click-clicked down the avenue, giggling and talking now like a pair of children out of the hearing of their nurse.

SMART MILLINERY.

A new hat is an essential accompaniment of a fine spring day, and, even if it were not, to resist the blandishments of models so fascinating as the ones illustrated on this page would be wellnigh

and beneath it, while a couple of black feathers at the back prove an additional ornament. Scented veils of all the now fashionable shades at different prices, ranging from eighteenpence, form a noticeable item of Valerie's stock, to say nothing of hundreds of beautiful pins and other millinery trifles.

And it is as well to know that these and other hats shown at Valerie's can be carried out to match a dress, and models will be sent on approval from this smart establishment after a deposit has been paid and a trade reference has been given.

SIMPLE DISH.

SCOTCH COLLOPS.

INGREDIENTS:—Half a pound of steak, one ounce of butter, one gill of stock, one finely-chopped onion, salt and pepper, fried bread or toast.

Mince the steak finely. Melt the butter in a saucepan, put in the mince, and fry it a pale brown, then add the stock and the chopped onion and season it to taste with salt and pepper. Let the mince simmer slowly for one hour. Serve it on a



A Hat of wine coloured straw, with velvet trimmings to match.



The Veil of to-day is most smart when it matches the hat in colouring.



Roses are undoubtedly the favourite flowers of the moment.

themselves both capable and reliable. I visited the Red Cross Hospital in Tokyo last summer, where the quaint little nurses are dressed in white, with huge white mob caps adorned with the red-cross decoration.

The Housewives of the Land of Sunrise.

They are a very domesticated little people in the Land of Sunrise, and the women are at their best in their homes, dispensing tea to their friends with a grace and politeness never seen in any other country in the world. They serve tea at all times and in all places in Japan.

You go shopping, and before any business is touched upon, tea in small cups without handles is served, which you must drink if you wish to please the little merchants. The tea is a bright yellow colour, made by pouring boiling water over the green tea-leaves, and is innocent of either cream or sugar.

On rarely sees ladies of the upper classes about the streets; and in their own homes they are generally quietly dressed in dark silks. It is only at State functions and entertainments that one has an opportunity of seeing how magnificently they can dress. I have in no other country seen such exquisite silks as some of the women wear.

At a reception given by a naval officer for a Japanese Prince last summer the hostess was a picture in a Japanese dress of a pale green shade, which became almost white towards the foot of the skirt to blend with exquisite embroidery depicting storks and pink-white cherry blossom. Her obi, or sash, was cream, with a rare device in gold

toddling a long way behind, and, by the time they had reached the tables, their noble little masters had seated themselves, and were too much intent upon the menu to glance at them. All through dinner the men enjoyed an animated conversation and the little women said never a word.

Old and new Japan were strikingly contrasted in this group. The quaint little women, with their dark eyes shaming faintly at the corners, their shining hair surrounding their doll faces like black halos, and their funny little graceful bodies clothed in dark silk kimonoes, with bits of mauve and gold and cream, looked like Geishas on a tea-cup. They seemed in a subdued and gentle fashion to enjoy their English dinner, and they were very much emancipated indeed if they were permitted to dine at the same table as their husbands. A very much Europeanised Japanese said to me one day "You put things upside down in your country, where ladies first then gentlemen." As he had been half-a-dozen years in England he had had time to have his mind, as well as his clothes and manners, Europeanised, so I asked him what was his honest opinion of the question. "Well," he said, "gentlemen should always be kind to ladies and not cruel, but gentlemen must be first."

The little women are quite happy with this reading of the relations of the sexes. They attend to their social and domestic duties, they sew a little, and read a little, and drink a good deal of tea. When the master of the house gives a dinner he engages geishas to entertain his guests, and the little wives retire into the honourable interior, and remain invisible. They know better than any other

an impossibility to the woman of a femininely constituted mind. They were sketched at Valerie's, 12, New Burlington-street, and translated into words may be described as follows.

But, first of all, a hint or two may appropriately be given as to the material of which the best spring millinery is made. Felts and velvets, except of the lightest weight and of the finest crepe-like texture, now give place to straws. And of what description are these straws? They are either of the very finest weave or the coarsest; in other words, as delicate as chip, of which old-world favourite the model that centres this group is composed, or as robust as are the models to be seen on the left and right of the page.

New Fashions in Vells.

The hat with the birdlike veil is made of brown chip with a flounce of lace at the edge, the crown is banded with orange-coloured velvet, and standing upright on the left are handsome ostrich plumes. Needless to remark, the veil is brown to match the hat, in accordance with the present fashion's unalterable laws.

On the left is shown a very smart hat, one of those with a well turned-up brim all the way round, but especially lofty at the back. It is made of wine-coloured straw with a crown band and velvet bows of the same colour drawn through a handsome straw buckle, which loops and buckle find a repetition at the back where they rest upon the hair.

The model depicted on the right is made of rough black straw most becomingly trimmed with a double row of pink roses on the rim of the crown

hot dish with a border of neat sippets of fried bread or toast. Veal is excellent cooked in this manner, but with it add a little mace and lemon juice.

Cost 10d. for three portions.

OFFERED THIS WEEK.

Re SHAW & CO., Bankruptcy (late) & Love Lane, London. E. HODGSON & SONS, City of London, will send Ladies' Beautiful Tailor-made Cloth Serge Costume Suits, in Black or Navy, richly trimmed with Silhouette Stappings, also Lingerie Pocket. For the small sum of 3s. 6d. postage 3d. extra, and we shall include with each Suit a massive 18ct. gold-pattern curb bracelet with heart pendant, mounted with pearls and turquoise and scented forget-me-nots, cased in pure gold. Illustrated Bargain Catalogue of Carpets, Rugs, Curtains, Linens, Stairs, &c. post free. Address: F. HODGSON & SONS (Dept. H.L.E.) Manufacturers and Merchants, WOODSIDE ROAD, LONDON.

HUNT'S LIQUID BLACKLEAD (PAT.)

Removes Grease. Brilliant Fixed Black Polish.

Awarded 1 Gold, 5 Silver Medals, Of Oils and Greases, Bottles, 1d., 3d., 6d., Sample 6d., of Hunt, 25, Station Street, Fulham.

BRIDGE DAY BY DAY.

By ERNEST BERGHOLT.

EIGHTH WEEKLY COMPETITION.

The new kind of problem set in this competition—involving the reconstruction of a game at Bridge, the last five cards only of which were given—seems to have aroused great interest among our readers, and their replies exhibit an astonishing amount of ingenuity.

Tricks 9 to 13, in the schedule of play, give the correct play of the end position. At trick 9, North must throw $\diamond 9$ under the knave to prevent East's putting the lead into his hand by returning $\diamond 6$. If East does not continue the trump at trick 10 NS make the game easily by a cross-ruff. East and West cannot discard to greater advantage.

Since the ending shown could be arrived at in several ways, solvers were only asked to say what the hands "might have been." They were, in fact, as set out below:—

$\heartsuit J, 8$,
 $\heartsuit A, 7, 4$,
 $\diamond 9, 5, 4, 3$,
 $\clubsuit A, 6, 5, 2$.

North
West East
South

$\heartsuit A, 5, 4, 2$,
 $\heartsuit K, 9, 3$,
 $\diamond A, J, 7, 2$,
 $\clubsuit K, Q$.

$\heartsuit K, Q, 9, 3$,
 $\heartsuit Q, 10, 6$,
 $\diamond K, Q, 6$,
 $\clubsuit 9, 8, 7$.

North dealt and left it to South, who (by rule) was compelled to declare diamonds. Had the declaration not been a forced one, he would naturally have made it no-trumps. East led $\heartsuit K$, and all hands were then exposed. The play went as follows:—

THE PLAY.

Trick.	EAST.	SOUTH.	WEST.	NORTH.
1.	$\heartsuit K$	$\heartsuit 3$	$\heartsuit 7$	$\heartsuit 8$
2.	$\heartsuit Q$	$\heartsuit 2$	$\heartsuit 7$	$\heartsuit J$
3.	$\clubsuit 9$	$\clubsuit K$	$\clubsuit 3$	$\clubsuit 4$
4.	$\heartsuit 7$	$\heartsuit 5$	$\heartsuit 8$	$\heartsuit 6$
5.	$\heartsuit 3$	$\heartsuit 10$	$\heartsuit 4$	$\heartsuit 9$
6.	$\heartsuit 8$	$\heartsuit 4$	$\heartsuit 10$	$\heartsuit 3$
7.	$\heartsuit 9$	$\heartsuit 2$	$\heartsuit 10$	$\heartsuit A$
8.	$\diamond Q$	$\diamond A$	$\diamond 8$	$\diamond 4$
9.	$\diamond K$	$\diamond J$	$\diamond 10$	$\diamond 9$
10.	$\diamond 6$	$\diamond 7$	$\diamond 5$	$\diamond 6$
11.	$\heartsuit 10$	$\heartsuit 2$	$\heartsuit 8$	$\heartsuit 9$
12.	$\heartsuit Q$	$\heartsuit 9$	$\heartsuit J$	$\heartsuit A$
13.	$\heartsuit 9$	$\heartsuit 5$	$\heartsuit J$	$\heartsuit 7$

Result: NS win 11 tricks; EW win 2 tricks. Score: NS, 30 below the line and game.

The position after Trick 8:—

North.

West. East.

South.

Diamonds trumps. South to lead.

ENGLAND'S ROLL OF HEROES.

THE HERO OF THE YEAR.



Mr. J. Shearns, fourth officer of the P. & O. steamship Malacca, won the highest medal which the Royal Humane Society can grant. He rescued a drowning seaman who had fallen overboard in a heavy sea.

Winners of the Humane Society's Stanhope Medal, and How They Won It.

The greatest hero of the year, in the opinion of the Royal Humane Society, is Mr. J. Shearns, fourth officer of the P. & O. steamship Malacca, who has been awarded the Stanhope Gold Medal, the highest recognition anybody can receive from the society.

Mr. Shearns, who is quite a young man, brought off a daring rescue in the China Sea. Shortly after midnight the quartermaster of the Malacca fell overboard. At the time a six-knot tide was running, there was a heavy sea, and the night was pitch dark. In spite of this the gallant young sailor leaped into the sea, to what his captain thought was certain death. But he was a powerful



SUB-LIEUTENANT R. A. F. MONTAGUE, R.N., risked his life in a shark-infested sea to save a seaman.

swimmer, and he was brought safely aboard again with the man whom he had snatched from the jaws of death.

The first man to earn the gold medal was Captain Matthew Webb, of Channel fame. Since then it has been won by all ranks and conditions of men. In 1880 Admiral the Hon. Sir E. R. Fremantle was awarded the medal for an extremely plucky action in Aboukir Bay, when he plunged overboard the life of a leadsmen who had fallen into the sea. Captain H. N. McRae, 43rd Sikhs, was awarded the medal in 1886 for the daring rescue of an Artilleryman from a deep well at Rawal Pindi. As burden the rope, unable to bear the double strain, parted, and precipitated both men to the bottom again. Though badly hurt the officer was undaunted, and eventually a stronger rope was ob-

tained and rescuer and rescued safely hauled to the top.

In 1899 Gunner William Hall was given the medal for rescuing three children from an upstairs room in Clerkenwell, where they had been overcome by the fumes of prussic acid. A somewhat similar deed won the medal for William Allen, of Sunderland, who rescued a man who



GUNNER WILLIAM HALL, rescued three children from an upstairs room where they had been overcome by the fumes of prussic acid. (Deadlin.)

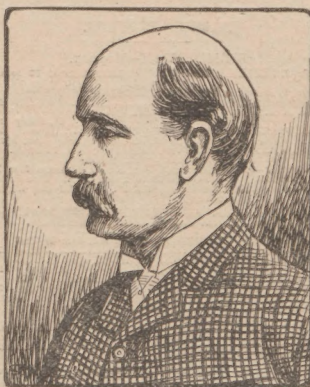
had been overcome by the gaseous fumes in a tar still. Sub-Lieutenant R. A. F. Montague was the winner in 1877; he plunged overboard in a shark-infested sea in an attempt to save a seaman who



CAPTAIN H. N. MCRAE, who rescued an Artilleryman from a deep well in India, won the Stanhope Medal in 1886. (Photo—Clark, Bristol.)

had fallen from the ship. Unfortunately, after being twenty minutes in the water, he had to give up and had the greatest difficulty to save his own life.

Another officer in the Army, Lieutenant J.



LIEUTENANT J. DE HOGHTON supported a drowning sailor for a quarter of an hour till help arrived. (Photo—Chancellor, Dublin.)

de Hoghton, won the coveted distinction, saving a sailor who fell from a passing yacht. Although the medal is not solely for men, no woman has ever received the award.

THE KING AT PORTSMOUTH.

Handy Man Displays His Prowess by Land and Sea.

Portsmouth will not easily forget the three days' visit of King Edward.

Yesterday morning his Majesty continued his investigations, beginning with Whale Island, where he was received by Captain Percy Scott, who at once conducted him to the parade-ground, where a battalion of blue-jackets stood in readiness to march past the royal standard.

Then followed the event of the day. A naval brigade was drawn up before a wall—made of wood and cleverly painted to resemble masonry—with orders to storm or breach it.

The scene was China, and behind the wall stood a jummy Chinaman whose magazine-rifle blazed away at the party of tars. These fell prone and wriggled along on their waistbands, pushing green boughs before them, like Birnam Wood approaching Dunsinane. Macbeth on the ramparts, a mechanical figure wondrously and strikingly contrived, continued to work his trigger; for green boughs could not deceive this wily Chinaman.

His resistance, however, was short-lived. Down the line of green boughs dashed a motor-car (the property of Captain Percy Scott), furnished with a maxim, that, without more ado, blew the unfortunate Chinaman's head off.

Next entered a naval officer. This hardy mariner took a hasty glance at the wall and blew



WILLIAM ALLEN, of Sunderland, at tremendous personal risk, rescued a man who was overcome by fumes in a tar-still. (Photo—Thompson.)

his whistle. A field-gun's crew responded, dragging a twelve-pounder, which they speedily hoisted over the wall, taking a ton weight avoirdupois as though it were but a one-pound dumb-bell.

The next party to put in an appearance was a select body of blue-jackets in charge of one of the identical 4.7 guns that did such excellent service during the siege of Ladysmith. These, after a careful scrutiny of the wall, decided that it would be easier to blow a hole in it than to hoist the gun, on its Percy Scott carriage, over the 12ft. that separated the parapet from the ground. Accordingly, a bag marked "dynamite" was applied to the obstacle, a terrific bang followed, and the wall parted, leaving a breach through which the 4.7 was dragged in triumph, while the band played a lively march.

Leaving Whale Island, his Majesty proceeded up Portsmouth Harbour, where he witnessed the explosion of a line of submarine mines.

Leaving Portsmouth, his Majesty saw a boom defence destroyed by means of mines. Then, after landing, and an inspection of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, the King returned to Admiralty House for luncheon, afterwards taking a special train for London.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

A dramatic incident occurred in connection with the death of the late Mr. Charles Williams, the war correspondent. Mr. Williams had two sons who are journalists, one in Sydney, N.S.W., the other in Canada, writes a contemporary. His son in Canada is Mr. F. G. H. Williams, who is at present telegraph editor of the "News," one of the leading dailies in Toronto. On February 8, the day of the opening of hostilities in the Far East, Mr. Williams was busily engaged taking off his machine the items of war news as they ticked over the wire, when in the midst of them the machine spelt out the tidings of his father's death. It was the first intimation he received of the loss he had sustained.

The Hobby of a Duchess.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught are giving a ball at the Royal Hospital, Dublin, to-night, which is expected to be an extremely smart function. The Duchess is immensely popular with the warm-hearted Irish, and has thoroughly adopted their habits, even to the purchase of a jaunty car. Like most of our Royal Family, the keynote of her character is unaffected simplicity, and she may often be seen driving about the streets of Dublin in the most unobtrusive fashion, unlike the greater state affected by Lady Dudley. Her carriage very frequently stands outside an old curiosity shop, for one of the Duchess's hobbies is old furniture—chiefly old satinwood and mahogany; and she has also a wonderful collection of curios, among the latter being a pair of exquisite Empire candlesticks, picked up by some lucky treasure-hunter in a Clare farmhouse for a few shillings, and afterwards sold to her Royal Highness for several pounds. The Duchess is quite an athlete, and devoted to hockey and golf; she has brought up her daughters to enjoy the same healthy pursuits, and a pair of brighter, bonnier English girls than the Princesses Margaret and Patricia of Connaught it would be difficult to find anywhere. The Princess Patricia is a living compliment to the Irish nation; and, in connection with the introduction of the national name into the Royal Family, one remembers the story of the old woman who called out after Queen Victoria, as she drove with the Prince Consort through the streets of Dublin in 1849: "Make one of yer dear children Prince Patrick, and Ould Oireland'll just die for ye!" Her late Majesty, we know, acted on the hint, her next son being christened Arthur Patrick, who is now the Duke of Connaught.

Genius Undimmed by Age.

To-day is the birthday of Mr. Watts, one of our greatest living artists, whose wonderful creative genius is still undimmed at eighty-seven, as



ADMIRAL THE HON. SIR E. R. FREMANTLE won the Stanhope Medal in 1880 for saving the life of a sailor who had fallen overboard. (Photo—Army and Navy Auxiliary Stores.)

was seen proved by his exhibits in last year's Academy. He is almost as celebrated for his altruistic and humanitarian instincts as for his painting, one, indeed, being the complement of the other, and both governed by his grand and noble motto, "The utmost for the Highest." One beautiful result of his philanthropy is the village graveyard chapel at Compton, which was originated and carried out by Mr. and Mrs. Watts, and where all the decorations are symbolic designs modelled in clay by Surrey working people in Mrs. Watts' industrial classes. Mr. Watts is a firm believer in the immense power of art and beauty to influence common daily life. He once offered to do a beautiful fresco, illustrating the history of the world, for the interior of Euston Station; it is almost needless to say that a money-grubbing company refused the generous gift. The artist's own favourite among his many productions is the well-known "Love and Life," which at present forms a portion of the Watts collection in the Tate Gallery.

A Princess Driven Abroad.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, has gone abroad with Lady Helen Lacey and will not return until she is better able to stand the unkindly climate and fatigues of London. Her Royal Highness suffers a great deal from rheumatism, which the humidity of the gardens surrounding Kensington Palace does not tend to improve; and, of late, too, she has been sorely plagued with nerves. Princess Louise is a woman of highly-strung temperament, artistic in no common degree, very alert, and with a strong sense of humour. London is to her as a vast whispering gallery, and there is little of news that her friends do not pour into her sympathetic ear. Her suite in the old palace is arranged in singularly perfect taste, and her studio, crammed with treasures. English in all tastes, the Princess, nevertheless, much regrets the "tuft hunting" of her country-people, and is forced when she wants a holiday for health and recreation to take it at a foreign watering-place; for, when she went to Harrogate, a year or two ago, she was unmercifully mobbed. Wherever she goes the Princess's massene accompanies her, for, like other members of the royal family, she is a firm believer in massage.

An accident has occurred to another Cambridge crew. Mr. Powell, having sprained his ankle, was substituted at 7 by H. D. Gillies, Caius, yesterday, while at the same time Winthrop-Smith and Johnstone, being

A DULL DEBATE.

Commons Discuss War Office
Expenditure and Chinese
Labour.

The Heanthen Chinese, like a bad coin, is always turning up. He turned up unexpectedly yesterday, the result being that the Parliamentary deck had been scarcely cleared before a further delay had arisen in prosecuting the serious work of the Session.

The House opened listlessly. Members, like reluctant schoolboys, showed no overweening desire to return to work. Fifty questions were addressed to Ministers, and fifty answers given. Then came the questions not on the paper, and here it was that the irrepressible Chinaman raised his pig-tailed head.

It was three o'clock before Mr. Speaker's duties had ended, and the House went into "Committee of Supply."

The Government wanted a supplementary vote of £2,700,000 for additional expenditure in respect of Army services, and Mr. Arnold-Forster, wearing a red tie and the worried look of a War Office Minister, came to the Treasury box.

This was practically a sweeping up of all the outstanding accounts of the late war in South Africa, and though the total amount asked for was somewhat large there was no ground for censure against the financial department of the War Office. The vote included sums for expenses in connection with the Colonial contingents, Yeomanry, and the Chinese expeditionary force, the accounts for which were only now to hand. There was also an item of £100,000 for gratuities to the South African Constabulary. Part of the vote was also for the military operations in the thrice-invaded territory of Somaliland.

Hopeful Outlook in Somaliland.

The War Minister was optimistic as to our impending tussles with the Mullah. "I do not think I am overstating the purport of the information at the disposal of the War Office when I say that the operations in Somaliland are in a more satisfactory condition than they have been for many months past, and that we are within reasonable distance of developments which should make it much easier to bring the campaign to a conclusion."

"C.-H." did not like the estimate. It was "extraordinary," and every line demanded explanation. In gentle but decisive tones, he declared that these "appropriations in aid" were carried to an extent which had never been contemplated when the bill was first allowed. The Army expenditure had gone up fifty per cent, and the Navy one hundred per cent, and thirty millions on both sides had been added since the Conservative Government came into power. "The truth is"—and the Liberal leader's beady eyes flashed with conviction—"the truth is, an attempt is being made



Till the temporary railway across the ice on Lake Balkal is completed, the difficulties of transport on the Siberian railway are almost beyond control. Passengers and war material are removed from the trains on the edge of the ice till they can be transported by sledge. As this means of transport is badly lacking, mountains of freight are piled up on the ice, while on the eastern side another huge pile is waiting for trains to carry it to the front.

to make us a first-rate military Power as well as a first-rate naval Power without any clear idea why it should be done."

The House filled, and Party enthusiasm began to rise. Mr. Ritchie rose to support the Government.

"I consider that if ever a Supplementary Estimate is justified it is on the present occasion." Lifting his thick black brows, he moderated his tone. "The Secretary of State for War has taken credit for having brought the expenditure in connection with the war to close up to the estimates. But I cannot help remembering that when I was responsible for the finances of the country I was led to expect that not only would there be no more expenditure in winding up the war, but that in point of fact the Secretary of War looked forward to having to surrender several millions."

The Government system of estimate-making formed the theme for many burning protests, but before the House adjourned for dinner an amendment to reduce the vote by £10,000 was negatived by 69 (197 to 128).

The latter hours of the sitting were devoted to a further critical scrutiny of the Chinese Labour question.

DARLING OF THE GUARDS.

Mr. Arthur Roberts Makes Fun
of Mr. Tree With Great
Success.

There was a flicker—not to say a flare—of the "sacred lamp" of burlesque at the Prince of Wales's Theatre last night, where a "skitlet" of the Japanese play at His Majesty's was added to "The Schoolgirl." Thus into the newest of new musical comedies Mr. Arthur Roberts brought back his art of the days long ago.

None of Mr. Roberts's later efforts have been half so happy as this "Darling of the Guards"—which is twenty times as good a joke as its title.

Not only are Mr. Roberts's solemnities matters of quite infinite mirth, but the burlesque itself is quite a complete little affair, admirably written and brilliantly devised. It has songs and dances—capital ones—all to itself, and, indeed, Mr. Roberts's song as "Saccharine Minister of Bluff," is about the best of the whole evening.

Not only is Mr. Roberts deliciously cruel to Mr. Tree—at whose "taking-off" he is a pretty old hand by now—but Miss Edna May proves quite a surprisingly clever performer. She indulges in her wicked little hits at Miss Lena Ashwell in so entirely nice and dainty and apparently unconscious a way that malice is quite out of the question.

CITY FEELING MUCH BETTER.

The stock markets yesterday showed no signs of their Saturday panic. The bankers had met in Paris, and the great finance firms in the various financial centres, and when the markets opened both here and on the Continent there were supporting orders. Consequently the fall was at once arrested, speculators for the fall scrambled in to cover their commitments, and the markets kept firm throughout the day.

Consols were quite a cheerful feature, and the pressure to sell noticeable in the Street on Saturday was at once relaxed.

There was not very much to notice in the Home Railway section, but the American market opened in a distinctly nervous fashion. New York was observing a holiday. There was some fear in consequence, lest Berlin might sell on an unsupported market. But Berlin was not a seller, and, on the other hand, American orders were sent over here, and the close was firm.

A little profit-taking took place in Spanish and Foreign Rails showed very little movement. Naturally most interest was centred in the Foreign market. Here a smart revival took place in Spanish and Turkish bonds, which have suffered so severely of late. Other securities were put up in consequence. There were rumours current of an impending Russian loan, and it was said that underwriting was in progress.

REBELS SHELL A CLYDE LINER.

Santo Domingo rebels having shelled the Clyde liner New York, two American cruisers shelled them in return, and landed 400 marines, who drove off the insurgents.

On the 16th inst, says Reuter, the Dominican forces were victorious after a two days' battle with the insurgents, and the latter had to raise the siege of the capital, heaving a retreat.

A Wonderful Budget

— of —

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The Jap's 'Rusho' War!

The end of the game as seen thro a
pair of Japanese spectacles! ???

There was a large bear who, tho' worried,
Declared he would never be hurried!
One day a small Jap
Sat up and said Nap!
And off in a moment he scurried!

This is a facsimile of a post card which arrived at the "Daily Illustrated Mirror" office yesterday. It was drawn and sent by one of our readers, who seems to have few doubts as to the end of the war between Russia and Japan.

